



SOCCER ACTION

JUGOSLOVENSKA
SCENA: 14

VIVA ITALIA: 10

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ
ΣΕΛΙΣ: 14

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST PUBLICATION NO. VB0351

Vol. 11, No. 18

WEDNESDAY 28 MAY, 1986

603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Phone: (03) 605 4257/58 (editorial)
(03) 605 4259 (advertising)

\$1.40 recommended price only



© Diego Maradona (Argentina)

It's Maradona v Platini

MICHEL Platini will start his third World Cup on Saturday, satisfied with his past performances and with France's ability to win the trophy. Diego Maradona struts the world stage for the second time, hoping to wipe out bitter memories and doubtful about Argentina's ability.

But watch for Sanchez and Francescoli

These two will dominate the World Cup. They are vying for the title of World No 1 Player.

Maradona, 25, was in the Argentinian squad for the 1978 finals but he was among three left out when it was reduced from 25 to 22. "I thought the world had come to an end. It was terrible for me," he recalled this week.

And he wants to live down his rather ordinary form in Spain in 1982. "I could have played much better," he said. "But they hit me right, left and centre. I believe that in South America, players are protected much better by referees. In South America a bad tackle is always a foul, unlike Italy and Spain. I hope, therefore, that we have a lot of South American referees during the World Cup."

Platini is matter-of-fact about the World Cup. "I don't think I lack anything," he said. "I don't lack the World Cup. I've had a fantastic career; I've had 14 fantastic years. I think that's my big satisfaction — not the trophies. I'm happy when I look back ... all I've done, the people I've known, the atmosphere of football."



© Hans-Peter Briegleb (West Germany)

Brazil favorite

● A noted Melbourne soccer bookmaker last week laid a bet of \$4,000 to \$1,000 on Argentina winning the 1986 World Cup and immediately cut Argentina's quote from 4/1 to 7/2. Here are the current odds (subject to fluctuation) on offer about winning the World Cup:

3/1 — Brazil
7/2 — Argentina
5/1 — Uruguay
9/1 — Mexico, Italy, England
10/1 — France, West Germany
12/1 — Denmark
16/1 — Belgium
20/1 — Spain, USSR, Hungary, Poland
30/1 — Portugal
40/1 — Scotland
50/1 — Paraguay
100/1 — Bulgaria, Northern Ireland
200/1 — Algeria
500/1 — Morocco, Canada, South Korea, Iraq

Here are the odds for winning the groups:
Group A: 1/4 Argentina; 6/4 Italy; 12/1 Bulgaria; 100/1 South Korea.
Group B: 1/2 Mexico; 5/4 Belgium; 10/1 Paraguay; 100/1 Iraq.
Group C: 5/4 France; 7/4 Hungary; 2/1 USSR; 100/1 Canada.
Group D: 1/6 Brazil; 5/1 Spain; 20/1 Northern Ireland; 40/1 Algeria.
Group E: 5/4 Uruguay; 6/4 West Germany; 3/1 Denmark; 10/1 Scotland.
Group F: 1/6 England; 10/1 Poland; 10/1 Paraguay; 50/1 Morocco.



© Michel Platini (France). Illustrations by ROBERT KABBAS

All the TV matches

SBS

ABC

Sunday, 1 June

6 am Opening ceremony and Italy v Bulgaria
10.35 pm Highlights

9.45 pm Highlights of day two

10 pm Highlights of day three

10 pm Highlights of day four

10.05 pm Highlights of day five

10.25 pm Highlights of day six

10.25 pm Highlights of day seven

10.35 pm Highlights of day eight

9.45 pm Highlights of day nine

10 pm Highlights of day 10

10 pm Highlights of day 11

10.05 pm Highlights of day 12

11 pm Highlights of day 13

9.55 pm Highlights of day 14

10.40 pm Summary of first-round highlights

9.45 pm Highlights of day 15

10 pm Highlights of day 16

10 pm Highlights of day 17

10 pm Highlights of day 18

Friday, 20 June

10.30 pm Summary of stage two highlights

Sunday, 22 June

6 am (four hours) 1st and 2nd quarter-finals

11.15 pm Highlights of quarter-finals

Monday, 23 June

6 am (four hours) 3rd and 4th quarter-finals

9.45 pm Highlights of quarter-finals

Thursday, 26 June

6 am (four hours) 1st and 2nd semi-finals

10 pm Highlights of semi-finals

Sunday, 29 June

6 am Play-off for third place

2.05 pm Highlights of play-off

9.30 pm Highlights of play-off

Monday, 30 June

3.45 am World Cup final, live

6.30 am World Cup final, repeat

9.45 pm Highlights of final

Monday, 16 June

Time to be announced stage two match

Tuesday, 17 June

tba stage two match

Wednesday, 18 June

tba stage two match

Thursday, 19 June

tba stage two match

Friday, 20 June

tba stage two match

Saturday, 21 June

tba stage two match

Sunday, 22 June

tba stage two match

Monday, 23 June

tba stage two match

Tuesday, 24 June

tba stage two match

Wednesday, 25 June

tba stage two match

Thursday, 26 June

tba stage two match

Friday, 27 June

tba stage two match



© Craig Johnston — co-host of the ABC's coverage

He believes France can win it, and he believes it will be his last World Cup. "I'll be 35 in four years time," he says. "I don't know my future at all."

Maradona is Argentina's captain, chosen ahead of the previous skipper, Daniel Passarella, by new coach Carlos Bilardo, who replaced Cesar Luis Menotti.

And, unlike Platini, this is not his last World Cup. "If it were possible I would want to play until I'm 100. I have seen too many players who have left the game and just live on their memories," he says.

About this team, he says: "The players need greater self-confidence, greater security about their game. We get on well both on and off the pitch but you can see in the matches that we become too anxious too easily about the way the game may be going."

Bilardo has ignored Maradona's strong suggestion that Ramon Diaz should be in the squad. Diaz played alongside Maradona in attack when Argentina won the 1979 World Youth Championship in Japan.

● Cont page 2



BUFFALO SPORTS

1986 WORLD CUP SOUVENIR BALLS



\$39.95



\$39.95

NOW ONLY \$29.95

Available at . . .

ASCOT VALE

BARRY GRANT SPORTS, 67 Charles St

Ph 370 3747

RESERVOIR

RESERVOIR SPORTS, 54 Edwards St

Ph 460 9972

SPRINGVALE

SPORTSMANS CENTRE, 246 Springvale Rd

Ph 546 9502

BURWOOD

KEVIN ROCK SPORTS POWER

Cnr Warrigal & Burwood Rd Ph 288 8916

BAYSWATER

VICTORIAN INDOOR SOCCER Centre, 3 Burton Crt Ph 729 1999



Train

SPORTS BALLS

SUPPLIER OF TOP QUALITY FIFA APPROVED

SOCCER BALLS (Leather, Hand Stitched)

Notice to all Clubs — BUY DIRECT AND SAVE!

PHONE (03) 580 2217 FOR PROMPT & COURTEOUS SERVICE

2A FONCECA ST, MORDIALLOC.

"We Also Deliver"

in Metropolitan Area.

EXCLUSIVELY RECOMMENDED BY . . .

RALE RASIC

Australian World Cup Finalist Coach

1974

"SOCCER & TRAIN SOCCER BALLS . . .

THE PERFECT MATCH"



From page one

There are grave doubts about Maradona's bad knee. "I have just advised him that the only 'cure' for the time being is to play and train normally — but not to work that knee too hard particularly in training," said his personal surgeon, Dr. Oliva.

It was on May 24 last year, in Cristobal, Venezuela, that it all began. Maradona explained Argentina there in a World Cup qualifying match. As the players left the pitch, mobbed by fans, one took advantage of the crush to kick Maradona hard on the knee. After a lay-off, he damaged the knee again in a kick-around with friends in Naples. Surgeons said then that surgery was preferable. It has been delayed for so long that the inevitable physical clinic of the World Cup may well prove the last straw.

Recalling he was sent off against Brazil in the 1982 finals, Maradona said "I'm more mature now, but I haven't changed as a player or a person." And he reacted angrily to talk about Bilardo's restrictive tactics. "I'm tired of hearing that Carlos gives us full freedom of movement on the pitch," he said.

While Maradona and Platini vie for personal glory, would be usurpers stand in the wings: Preben Elkjaer-Larsen of Denmark, Enzo Francescoli of Uruguay, Fernando Gomes of Portugal, Hans-Peter Briegel of West Germany, Zbigniew Boniek of Poland, and especially Luis Sanchez of Mexico. According to former Yugoslav international star Dragoslav Sekularac, now coach of Footscray J.U.S.T., Mexico could win the world cup and Sanchez will emerge as one of the best players. (See inside).

Platini, the enigmatic master of the unexpected, says he looks back further for his memories than Argentina 1978, his first World Cup, and Spain 1982, when he led France to the semi-finals.

"My fondest World Cup memories are from when I wasn't playing — in 1970 and '66 — because it was a great party. When you're in it, there are always problems. You have to win or you're criticised. It's no fun," he said.

"It was fun when I wasn't playing, when I was watching for hours a day on television," he added, cheerfully defying disbelief. "It was nice. That's a World Cup. When you're in it you have to win. It's no fun."

Platini recalled controversy over boot sponsorship in 1978 which might have led to the French team's return home from Argentina. So was there no pleasure in actually playing in the World Cup?

"I have pleasure in playing now because I'm above all the criticism, all the hassles. Now I say I don't give a damn about what people say. But 10 years ago, I was more sensitive. Now I'm tougher," Platini said.

The World Cup is more for the one who watches it. It's like the cinema. I go to the cinema because I want to watch. It's the party of football spectators, but us — we're the protagonists."

Platini, three times European Footballer of the Year, has won just about every major prize in soccer — the European Cup, the World Cup, the France, European and Inter-Continental Club Cups with his Italian club Juventus and the

Maradona, Platini vie for crown

Spread of domestic titles. So what would World Cup triumph mean?

"Nothing," he smiles after a long pause. "Satisfaction. I win the title I don't want to live all my life saying 'I'm world champion. No — it's nice, it's a beautiful experience to live for a couple of months.'"

He has scored a record 39 goals in 63 games for France. What about the pressure? Platini says it is not a problem on the pitch, but adds: "People expect a lot of me. I'm no longer judged on what I do but on what I ought to do, what I must do. I must score a couple of goals, be fantastic. That's what's a bit difficult. I can have a good game. I had a good game in '82, but people wanted more."

Platini, man of varied talents and shades of mood, led France in that last world cup and in their triumphant European Championship campaign two years ago. Of the Hyster he says: "It's a question of personality. The arm-band counts little."

Platini is one of four French players heading for their third World Cup finals, five of the first team are over 20 and the great side created by Michel Hidalgo is nearing the end.

But Platini said he hoped it would not mean the end of a golden French era. "Certainly it will perhaps mark the end of a certain generation. But it's up to French football to see if it is tough, if it can go forward," he said.

Platini, who has extended his contract with Juventus for a further year, might have been persuaded to play in England but for the Heysel Stadium tragedy in Brussels, which cost 39 lives when his team met Liverpool in last year's European Cup final.

"I was shocked by what happened, by all that was happening in English football. We're too much respect for the Italians to go there, because of the deaths and all they suffered. I've been five years in Italy. I'm of Italian origin. I have lots of Italian friends. I have been ill at ease if I'd gone."

"Football's whole ideology took a blow. Football should be a party but when someone gets killed it's not funny."

Platini said it was London rather than England which had attracted him. He was contacted by both Tottenham and Arsenal. "It wasn't so much the football, it was rather for the town. But that was in the past. 'I'm too old,' he said, ruling out a move.

As for his own assessment of his soccer gifts, the answer is laconic and basic: "The whole thing, I score goals." Similarly for the qualities he admires in others — "to give the good pass at the right moment."

And, will Platini's seven-year-old son Laurin follow in his father's footsteps? "No, he wants to be a goalkeeper."

● Here is the draw for the World Cup finals. The top two teams in each group qualify for the second round along with the four best third-placed teams:

GROUP A
31.5.86: Bulgaria v Italy
2.6.86: Argentina v Korea Republic
5.6.86: Italy v Argentina. Korea Republic v Bulgaria.
10.6.86: Korea Republic v Italy, Argentina v Bulgaria.

GROUP B
3.6.86: Belgium v Mexico.
4.6.86: Paraguay v Iraq.
7.6.86: Mexico v Paraguay.
8.6.86: Iraq v Belgium.
11.6.86: Iraq v Mexico, Paraguay v Belgium.

GROUP C
1.6.86: Canada v France.
2.6.86: USSR v Hungary.

GROUP D
1.6.86: Spain v Brazil.
3.6.86: Algeria v Northern Ireland.
6.6.86: Brazil v Algeria.
7.6.86: Northern Ireland v Spain.
12.6.86: Northern Ireland v Brazil, Algeria v Spain.

GROUP E
4.6.86: Uruguay v Germany FR, Scotland v Denmark.
8.6.86: Germany FR v Scotland, Denmark v Uruguay.
13.6.86: Denmark v Germany FR, Scotland v Uruguay.

GROUP F
1.6.86: France v USSR.
6.6.86: Hungary v Canada.
9.6.86: Hungary v France, USSR v Canada.

GROUP G
2.6.86: Morocco v Poland.
3.6.86: Portugal v England.
6.6.86: England v Morocco.
7.6.86: Portugal v Portugal.
11.6.86: Portugal v Morocco, England v Poland.

SECOND ROUND
15.6.86: Winner Group B v Third A/C/D Winner = 1; Winner Group C v Third A/B/F Winner = 4.
16.6.86: Winner Group A v Third C/D/E Winner = 8; Winner Group D v Third B/E/F Winner = 5.
17.6.86: Runner-up Group A v Runner-up Group C Winner = 6; Winner Group F v Runner-up Group E Winner = 7.

QUARTER FINALS
21.6.86: Winner 5 v Winner 6 Winner = C, Winner 7 v Winner 8 Winner = D.
22.6.86: Winner 3 v Winner 4 Winner = B, Winner 1 v Winner 2 Winner = A.

SEMI-FINALS
25.6.86: Winner A v Winner B, Winner C v Winner D.

MATCH FOR 3rd PLACE
28.6.86: Losers of the Semi-Finals.

FINAL
29.6.86: Winners of the Semi-Finals.

DRAW FOR THE FINALS

1.6.86: France v USSR.
6.6.86: Hungary v Canada.
9.6.86: Hungary v France, USSR v Canada.

1.6.86: Spain v Brazil.
3.6.86: Algeria v Northern Ireland.
6.6.86: Brazil v Algeria.
7.6.86: Northern Ireland v Spain.
12.6.86: Northern Ireland v Brazil, Algeria v Spain.

4.6.86: Uruguay v Germany FR, Scotland v Denmark.
8.6.86: Germany FR v Scotland, Denmark v Uruguay.
13.6.86: Denmark v Germany FR, Scotland v Uruguay.

2.6.86: Morocco v Poland.
3.6.86: Portugal v England.
6.6.86: England v Morocco.
7.6.86: Portugal v Portugal.
11.6.86: Portugal v Morocco, England v Poland.

15.6.86: Winner Group B v Third A/C/D Winner = 1; Winner Group C v Third A/B/F Winner = 4.
16.6.86: Winner Group A v Third C/D/E Winner = 8; Winner Group D v Third B/E/F Winner = 5.
17.6.86: Runner-up Group A v Runner-up Group C Winner = 6; Winner Group F v Runner-up Group E Winner = 7.

21.6.86: Winner 5 v Winner 6 Winner = C, Winner 7 v Winner 8 Winner = D.
22.6.86: Winner 3 v Winner 4 Winner = B, Winner 1 v Winner 2 Winner = A.

25.6.86: Winner A v Winner B, Winner C v Winner D.

28.6.86: Losers of the Semi-Finals.

29.6.86: Winners of the Semi-Finals.

Bossis, Battistone battle for sweeper's spot

A one-time spaghetti maker and penniless postman, a three-time European Footballer of the Year, two regulars arguing about which one will play sweeper and a striker who reportedly had lost the appetite to compete at the highest level, carry France's hopes of glory in Mexico.

All five are over 30 but in recent times France has shown great cohesion and team spirit and a certain confidence. It is European title in 1984, have raised self-confidence.

"It has not been proved physiologically that players of a certain age recuperate slower than younger ones," says manager Henri Michel, obviously playing down French Press criticism of the age of the team.

A hard life

● Jean Tigana rarely has enjoyed an easy passage in his extraordinary life. His childhood as a black, African-born boy in Marseilles contained much hardship.

One of nine children, Tigana had to scrape together a living as a spaghetti maker and postman. Until the age of 20, when he signed for Toulon, there was no hint of his subsequent rapid development into one of the world's most influential midfielders.

Toulon soon ditched Tigana but Lyons gave him a second chance and his talent at last was unearthed. But he's been plagued by injury. He played with a broken foot for more than a year.

He has established himself as a regular in the last French team of all time but his exploits have been overshadowed by perhaps the finest midfielder in the world — Michel Platini.

Platini's third European Footballer of the Year award clearly won't allow him to relax at the peak of his powers and in March this year he celebrated a decade of national team representation.

Bossis bitter

● So too did Maxime Bossis but Bossis is a bitter man and does little to hide the fact. Bossis is France's most capped player but he is vying with Patrick Battistone for the sweeper's role in the national team. Battistone broke into the French team as a full-back but recently has been in superb form as Bordeaux's sweeper and publicly has stated that he wishes to play sweeper for France or not at all.

Bossis doesn't beat about the bush. He feels that the French press has been against him, that it openly has come out in favor of Battistone as sweeper and that Michel keeps dodging the issue. Michel will have to nip this potentially explosive confrontation in the bud if the French are to do well in Mexico.

Rockin' Rocheteau

● Dominique Rocheteau, brilliant one game, strangely silent the next, also has been harassed by the French press. But Rocheteau, 31, is certain to lead the French attack and completely refutes criticism about his inconsistency, claiming that that is a part of his game which has improved dramatically over the past season.

Yet just over a year ago he seemed finished. He has been discarded by Michel who just had taken over as French manager and his club, Paris St. Germain, was struggling as Rocheteau failed to find the back of the net with his old regularity.

That situation changed remarkably in the 1983-84 season. With the long-haired Rocheteau scoring goals galore, Paris St. Germain zoomed up the First Division ladder and Michel had no option but to recall Rocheteau to the national team.

His international comeback last August was capped with a splendid goal in France's win over Uruguay in Paris.

What perhaps makes Rocheteau such an enduring, evergreen figure is his ability to detach himself from football when the training session or match is over.

The son of an oyster farmer from France's western coast, he doesn't live for the game — he's quick to point that out himself — he rather enjoys a comfortable life-style. He likes nothing better than to retreat to his country cottage, away from the hustle

and bustle of the city, away from the fans and the media. His chief hobby is rock music, particularly wiring up his electric guitar and thrashing away for hours on end.

Watch Papin

● Jean-Pierre Papin, the youngest player in the French squad, could be the surprise packet of the finals.

A year ago he was playing with Second Division club Valenciennes. He now plays with Belgian club FC Bruges and his French team mates have been amazed at how quickly the 22-year-old striker has adapted to the rigors of international football.

Was it a goal?

● France thrashed Guatemala 9-1 in Mexico last week. At least the French think that that was the final scoreline.

There was some confusion about whether or not Ferreri's 95th minute goal counted.

Other scorers were Papin (2), Platini, Rocheteau, Alain Giresse, Philippe Vercautse and Yannick Stopyra.

Two small Danes the

ake, says Piontek

Denmark's German manager

Sepp Piontek has named two little men, 33-year-old Allan Simonsen (1.65m) and Jesper Olsen (1.68m), as key figures in the Dane's World Cup campaign.

Both played only minor parts in Denmark's qualifying campaign. Simonsen, a former European Footballer of the Year, broke his leg two years ago, and Olsen is not long back after an ankle injury.

Yet these are the two with the skill and poise necessary to slow down Denmark's qualifying campaign. Simonsen, a former European Footballer of the Year, broke his leg two years ago, and Olsen is not long back after an ankle injury.

Everything depends on the midfield," Piontek says. "If it fails, we could have problems. In Mexico, we are going to need players with good technique who know how to conserve their energy and are not too big."

Denmark usually plays a 3-5-2 formation whose success depends heavily on its sweeper, 36-year-old Morten Olsen, orchestrating play from behind.

Big impact

● Denmark promises to have as big an impact on the 1986 World Cup as Portugal had on the 1966 tournament in England. Portugal, like Denmark, was making its World Cup debut. Spurred on by the great Eusebio, the Portuguese finished third.

But Denmark has a lot more talent than that Portuguese team. And hats off to Piontek for being able to mould a team from players spread throughout Europe.

Until the end of April, he didn't even have all the players at his disposal, because they were committed to their clubs.

Now Piontek's team is known as the "Common Market Cocktail."

Mezey was annoyed that Varga would be playing a standard of club football far inferior to that of Hungary's.

Nevertheless, Varga has played in 29 internationals and Mezey used him in five of Hungary's six qualifying games.

Health tests

● Mezey and assistant Jozsef Tajti have instilled increased determination and organization in Hungary.

That was made possible by carrying out tests on players' physical capacity and state of health.

Mezey wanted to find out why Hungarian players were injured so often and whether they could, if encouraged, improve their performance.

and bustle of the city, away from the fans and the media. His chief hobby is rock music, particularly wiring up his electric guitar and thrashing away for hours on end.

Watch Papin

● Jean-Pierre Papin, the youngest player in the French squad, could be the surprise packet of the finals.

A year ago he was playing with Second Division club Valenciennes. He now plays with Belgian club FC Bruges and his French team mates have been amazed at how quickly the 22-year-old striker has adapted to the rigors of international football.

Was it a goal?

● France thrashed Guatemala 9-1 in Mexico last week. At least the French think that that was the final scoreline.

There was some confusion about whether or not Ferreri's 95th minute goal counted.

Other scorers were Papin (2), Platini, Rocheteau, Alain Giresse, Philippe Vercautse and Yannick Stopyra.

Two small Danes the

ake, says Piontek

Denmark's German manager

Sepp Piontek has named two little men, 33-year-old Allan Simonsen (1.65m) and Jesper Olsen (1.68m), as key figures in the Dane's World Cup campaign.

Both played only minor parts in Denmark's qualifying campaign. Simonsen, a former European Footballer of the Year, broke his leg two years ago, and Olsen is not long back after an ankle injury.

Yet these are the two with the skill and poise necessary to slow down Denmark's qualifying campaign. Simonsen, a former European Footballer of the Year, broke his leg two years ago, and Olsen is not long back after an ankle injury.

Everything depends on the midfield," Piontek says. "If it fails, we could have problems. In Mexico, we are going to need players with good technique who know how to conserve their energy and are not too big."

Denmark usually plays a 3-5-2 formation whose success depends heavily on its sweeper, 36-year-old Morten Olsen, orchestrating play from behind.

Big impact

● Denmark promises to have as big an impact on the 1986 World Cup as Portugal had on the 1966 tournament in England. Portugal, like Denmark, was making its World Cup debut. Spurred on by the great Eusebio, the Portuguese finished third.

But Denmark has a lot more talent than that Portuguese team. And hats off to Piontek for being able to mould a team from players spread throughout Europe.

Until the end of April, he didn't even have all the players at his disposal, because they were committed to their clubs.

Now Piontek's team is known as the "Common Market Cocktail."

Mezey was annoyed that Varga would be playing a standard of club football far inferior to that of Hungary's.

Nevertheless, Varga has played in 29 internationals and Mezey used him in five of Hungary's six qualifying games.

Health tests

● Mezey and assistant Jozsef Tajti have instilled increased determination and organization in Hungary.

That was made possible by carrying out tests on players' physical capacity and state of health.

Mezey wanted to find out why Hungarian players were injured so often and whether they could, if encouraged, improve their performance.



● Preben Elkjaer-Larsen

Two small Danes the key, says Piontek

Denmark's German manager

Sepp Piontek has named two little men, 33-year-old Allan Simonsen (1.65m) and Jesper Olsen (1.68m), as key figures in the Dane's World Cup campaign.

Both played only minor parts in Denmark's qualifying campaign. Simonsen, a former European Footballer of the Year, broke his leg two years ago, and Olsen is not long back after an ankle injury.

Yet these are the two with the skill and poise necessary to slow down Denmark's qualifying campaign. Simonsen, a former European Footballer of the Year, broke his leg two years ago, and Olsen is not long back after an ankle injury.

Everything depends on the midfield," Piontek says. "If it fails, we could have problems. In Mexico, we are going to need players with good technique who know how to conserve their energy and are not too big."

Denmark usually plays a 3-5-2 formation whose success depends heavily on its sweeper, 36-year-old Morten Olsen, orchestrating play from behind.

Big impact

● Denmark promises to have as big an impact on the 1986 World Cup as Portugal had on the 1966 tournament in England. Portugal, like Denmark, was making its World Cup debut. Spurred on by the great Eusebio, the Portuguese finished third.

But Denmark has a lot more talent than that Portuguese team. And hats off to Piontek for being able to mould a team from players spread throughout Europe.

Until the end of April, he didn't even have all the players at his disposal, because they were committed to their clubs.

Now Piontek's team is known as the "Common Market Cocktail."

Mezey was annoyed that Varga would be playing a standard of club football far inferior to that of Hungary's.

Nevertheless, Varga has played in 29 internationals and Mezey used him in five of Hungary's six qualifying games.

Carlsberg

● Part of Denmark's success is due to sponsorship by Carlsberg brewery. The deal, for soccer at all levels, was struck in 1979 and its target was to reach the 1982 World Cup finals. The mission failed, but Denmark reached the semi-finals of the 1984 European championships and now is poised for its greatest ever triumph.

Laudrop the hero

● Juventus of Turin sold Marco Tardelli, Paulo Rossi and Zbigniew Boniek, yet still won the Italian championship. Michael Laudrop was the reason for that success. He virtually did the job of three men.

Laudrop, Denmark's joint spearhead along with Preben Elkjaer-Larsen, had been on loan to Lazio before Juventus recalled him. And at the age of 18, he turned down offers from Barcelona and Liverpool because there's too much kissing in Spain, and a shortage of skill, combined with an over-reliance on crosses in England.

Michael was counselled all along by his father Finn, now 40, who played 21 times for Denmark, as well as spending two seasons with Winer Sports.

Elkjaer-Larsen

● Preben Elkjaer-Larsen is a highly-strung, temperamental personality, whose moods alternate from exuberant to irritable. Sometimes he is talkative, at other times silent, on occasions clowning and then becoming abruptly resentful.

The Italian Press — he plays for Verona which paid Loderen of Belgium \$2.3 million for him — describes Elkjaer as "lout, classe" — the equivalent of "world class." He has tricky dribbling skill, he is as strong as a horse and as burly as a lumberjack, and he has a dead shot. In short, he's probably the best striker in the world today.

Mighty Molby

● Any doubts about Denmark's midfield majesty must have been dispelled in the English FA Cup final. Playing for Liverpool, Jan Molby, the great Dane, was the best player on the field and set up two of the goals in the 3-1 victory over Everton.

Munoz wars of goal drought

● The 1986 World Cup will feature possibly the lowest number of goals per match since the competition started.

So says Spain's coach, Miguel Munoz, 64.

"The football currently being played in Europe is all about preventing the success of the opponent rather than ensuring victory for one's own side," Munoz says.

"There is going to be a dearth of goalscorers in Mexico and I just hope the South American teams will save the situation."

DiStefano

● Munoz was coach of the underperforming Real Madrid team that beat DiStefano and Ferenc Puskas. He started playing for Real in 1948 and captained the club in its first two Champions' Cup final victories, over Reims in 1956 and Fiorentina in 1957.

He took over as coach at the age of only 38, and remained in charge for 14 years, and later coached Granada, Sevilla and Las Palmas. He was appointed national coach after the disastrous 1982

3 finals

● Spanish teams reached the finals of the European Cup, Cup Winners' Cup and UEFA Cup this year, but won only one of them. Barcelona was beaten by Borussia Dortmund in the European Cup, Atletico Madrid lost the Cup Winners' Cup to Dynamo Kiev, and Real Madrid won the UEFA Cup in a two-leg final against Cologne.

At national level Spain has won only one trophy — the 1984 European Championship although it did finish second in the 1984 titles. Fourth in 1950 was Spain's best World Cup performance.

Spain's recent performance has been impressive — 2-0 v Bulgaria, 2-0 v USSR, 3-0 v Belgium, 3-0 v Poland, with newcomer Julio Salinas from Atletico Bilbao, scoring in his first three appearances.

Munoz has dug into the side that lost the 1984 European under 21 championship final to England, come up with excellent young players like goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta, forward Miguel Parla, midfielder Miguel Gonzalez and star striker Emilio Butragueno, all of Real Madrid.

Spain has solidity at the back, with the tough central defensive partnership of Antonio Maceda and Jose

the European championship and always dangerous when he joins the attack — the famous Adoni Gorkostea and experienced left-back Jose Antonio Camacho while in midfield, Barcelona's Ramon Sanchez was the veteran interest after his recent emergency.

Up front, Munoz can count on Hipolito Rincón, who says: "I'm sure we're going to reach the final, surely Brazil, West Germany or England."

Butragueno

● As a youth player, Emilio Butragueno was advised by his coach to "stick to basketball." He wasn't very tall, however, so he stuck to soccer.

As a 22-year-old, Butragueno was top scorer of the Spanish second division, while playing for Real Madrid's nursery club, Castilla.



● Antonio Cabrini is escorted from the SCG in 1984 by NSW Federation official Kevin D'Arcy after being sent off in the match between Juventus of Turin and the Socceroos.

Odds against Italy: Bearzot



"According to the law of probability, it is virtually impossible to win again," says Italy's manager, Enzo Bearzot.

"Since World War Two, only Brazil has managed it — in 1958 and 1962 — but they had Pele."

But Italy did win two in a row — back in 1934 and 1938.

Confident Cabrini

● Bearzot's pessimism is not shared by Antonio Cabrini, Italy's captain since 1983. He intends to cap a spectacular run of personal successes by leading Italy to another world championship.

As stand-in skipper for Gaetano Scirea, who limped off the field during the World Cup final against Argentina's Juniors last December, Cabrini has been a colossus to his team-mates. First, Juventus won that world title against the Argentinians, and then Cabrini steered Juventus to the Italian title as well.

Cabrini has the dubious distinction of being the only man to miss a penalty in a World Cup final. That was against West Germany in Madrid in 1982. But instead of falling to the ground in despair, like so many others would, he calmly trotted back to the centre. It is this type of level-headedness which makes him such a good leader.

At 17, playing left back with Atlanta, he already was being compared with the

great Giacinto Facchetti. A year later he followed Atlanta's sweeper Scirea to Juventus, and when Facchetti, then 36, broke down on the eve of the World Cup in Argentina, Cabrini was drafted to take his place in the squad. He had progressed from reserves to the national team in just five months.

Cabrini showed somewhat of a mean streak at the Sydney Cricket Ground in 1984, when he kicked Australia's Marshall Soper in the Socceroos' 2-0 victory, and was sent off the field. The same thing happened in a friendly against West Germany early this year.

Cabrini, 28, was voted best left back of the 1982 World Cup, ahead of Brazil's Junior. If some of his team-mates can fol-

low his example, Italy may just lift its fourth World Cup!

Foreigners banned

● Some Italian football officials believe the arrival of foreign stars like Diego Maradona and Michel Platini impedes the development of homegrown talent.

As a result, the football federation imposed a ban on shopping abroad for the two-year run-up to the World Cup finals. The ban's effectiveness or otherwise will come under scrutiny when Italy begins its Cup defence.

Rossi a flop

● Paolo Rossi, top scorer and best player of the 1982 World Cup finals, keeps going down, down down...

When AC Milan bought Giuseppe Galderisi from Verona a couple of weeks ago, it threw in Rossi in part-exchange, in a deal worth \$3.68 million.

Rossi had been a flop at Milan.

And he only just squeezed into Italy's World Cup squad due to a feeling of sympathy more than anything else.

Since he helped Italian League side Vicenza win promotion to the First Division in 1977, Rossi's career has been a chronicle of high and low points.

A player of exceptional tactical intelligence, Rossi broke into top class soccer at the relatively late age of 20 after three cartilage operations had forced him into long periods of inactivity.

Discovered for Vicenza by club official Giuseppe Farina, it was to Farina, now president of Milan, that he returned after a subdued four years with Juventus in the shadow of France's Michel Platini.

Rossi caught Bearzot's eye late in 1977 when Vicenza was challenging Juventus for the League Title.

His first two caps were followed by a summons to join the National Team travelling to Argentina for the 1978 World Cup.

Rossi's rise in Argentina, where Italy finished fourth, was both unexpected and meteoric. He proved a fast, opportunistic player who gave a boost to the squad and scored three times.

"Pablito," as the admiring Argentine crowd nicknamed him, returned to Italy a hero but less than two years later was embroiled in a national betting scandal which rocked Italian soccer.

The Italian Football Federation suspended Rossi for two years after he was accused, with nearly 40 other players and officials, of accepting bribes from two illegal bookmakers to fix the results of key matches — charges which he has always denied.

A state court acquitted Rossi on similar charges and the promise of a contract with Juventus at the end of the federation suspension persuaded him to keep in shape.

His performance in Spain proved that the long layoff had done nothing to blunt his form.

The Spanish finals also highlighted the talents of Cabrini and Bruno Conti, both now pillars of the national team and among Bearzot's first choices for Mexico.

Magath 'like an abscess'

● Felix Magath's part in Germany's national team is "superfluous, like an abscess," says former international star Paul Breitner, writing in a German newspaper.

He reasons that at 33, Magath of Hamburger SV is too old and although he stars in club soccer, he's rarely much good in the national team.

German manager Franz Beckenbauer claims there is no one better as midfielder than Magath.

Magath, who's been representing Germany on and off since 1977, is laughing all the way to the bank. Apart from collecting big dough from his national team involvement, he'll have a lucrative new job waiting for him when he gets back — that of Hamburg manager. He's persuaded the club's board to make him the successor to Guenther Netzer.

Another oldie

● Beckenbauer has come under fire over the recall of 33-year-old Dieter Hoeness from Bayern Munich, after a seven-year absence. The general view is that Hoeness wasn't good enough at 25, and won't save Germany now.

Hoeness's recall is due to injuries that sidelined Rudi Voeller and Pierre Littbarski in the run-up to the World Cup finals. Both are back in the squad, but doubts remain about whether they will stand the pace in Mexico.

Littbarski was off for nine weeks with a foot injury. Voeller was hurt by Klaus Augenthaler in a league match — and Augenthaler is his team-mate with German side.

In his search for good strikers, Beckenbauer even offered a place to Bremen's Manfred Burgsmueller who, however, felt that at 36, he was a bit old.

So everything depends once more on Karl-Heinz Rummenigge whose 1982 World Cup campaign was hampered by injuries, and who's carrying an injury right now.

Rotten run

● Under Beckenbauer, Germany's greatest-ever player, the national team



● Magath

lost its first-ever World Cup qualifying match — against Portugal — and had a six-match stretch without victory — the side's longest yet!

● Prominent club managers have blasted Beckenbauer for making too many team changes.

But Beckenbauer argues that without such trial and error, he would not have been able to come up with the strongest possible squad.

Remember 1954

● Germany, after Brazil, is the second most successful team in World Cup history. It can reach a final even when it plays completely uninspiring soccer, as it did in 1982 in Spain.

And it can be thrashed in the preliminaries, yet still win the Cup! Remember 1954, when the Germans were thrashed 8-3 by mighty Hungary, but bounced back to beat the Hungarians 3-2 in the final.

Won't apologise

● "Schumacher had little talent but thanks to ambition, application and willpower, he has become great." It's a description of Germany's goalkeeper, Harald "Toni"



● Hoeness

Schumacher, by his business manager Ruediger Schmitz.

Schumacher clobbered Frenchman Patrick Battiston so hard in the 1982 World Cup that Battiston was out of the game for a year.

When he lined up with the Germans for the 1984 European championships, there were fears that French fans would attack him. But he played well, even though West Germany didn't make it to the semi-finals, and he was later voted West German footballer of the year.

Trying to explain why he never apologised to Battiston, Schumacher says: "I hate making mistakes. Had I shown remorse immediately, it would have amounted to an admission of error. I just can't bring myself to expressing regret."

No wonder he's seen as being arrogant.

Scots a worry

● Germany's record against its first-round World Cup opponents:

v Denmark, 8 wins, 2 draws, 4 losses, 38-25 goals

v Uruguay, 4 wins, 1 loss, 11-4 goals

v Scotland, 2 wins, 4 draws, 3 losses, 13-16 goals

Striker Klaus Allofs says: "This draw is not so lucky as we've had in past tournaments but it

isn't so bad either. We usually have difficulties with so-called easy opponents. All these rivals are equally strong. Nevertheless, I would describe ourselves as favorites."

Schuster's snub

● Bernd Schuster, the most talented of all Germans, refuses to play for his country. "One thing is certain — a player like Platini does not exist in Germany," says Beckenbauer. "The one German who can play like him doesn't want to, the others in the Bundesliga are foreigners like Lerby or Sigurvinsson. Frankly, I can't understand why Schuster doesn't want to parade his talents on the world stage. Our loss is as great as his."

It's squeezeball

● Talking about the modern game, Beckenbauer says: "The field of play is no longer 100 metres by 70. Practically all the action nowadays is squeezed into 20 metres either side of the halfway line. Thus the players have less and less time to control the ball."

Watch Voeller

● Gerd Mueller, the all-time top scorer in World Cup finals tournaments, has high hopes for striker, Rudi Voeller. "If he can recover fully, he could be one of the biggest stars in Mexico," Mueller says. About the team, Mueller says: "It has not been too convincingly lately. But we are a side that always comes good in tournaments and I'm sure we'll come through the opening group. I believe we can reach the semi-finals. But I see the South Americans as favorites, especially Brazil, because the climate is more suited to the way they play. The Europeans must adapt and not rush about too much. You have to conserve your energy for when it counts."

● DIADORA
● ADIDAS



● PUMA
● UHLSPORT

YAKA SPORTS

GRAND OPENING SALE

★ ★ THIS SATURDAY ★ ★

SAVE UP TO 30%



- ★ All your soccer accessories, boots, balls, studs, shinpads
- ★ Extensive range of soccer shirts, tracksuits and leisure suits
- ★ Wide range of runners from tennis to aerobics or just casual
- ★ Club and interstate orders welcome
- ★ Specializing in goalkeeping accessories

SO ALL YOU SOCCER FANS COME IN AND GET A BARGAIN

578 Barkly St, West Footscray (03) 689 9875

World Cup count down: No. 24

MEXICO

England best over the past year

By MIKE LYNN,
an Englishman

MEXICO 86

According to Footscray J.U.S.T. coach Dragoslav Sekularac, Mexico will win the World Cup, and its Spanish-based striker Hugo Sanchez of Real Madrid, will be one of the stars of the tournament.

Sekularac was national coach of Guatemala before he joined J.U.S.T.

And after the 1962 World Cup finals, Sekularac was named in the world all-star line-up, for his sensational form in the Yugoslav national team.

Sanchez is, undoubtedly, the greatest-ever Mexican player, having been crowned Spain's top marksman for two successive seasons. This time it was with Real Madrid. Last time it was with Atletico Madrid, the club that collected about \$3.5 million from his transfer.

The players in the Mexican national squad — with the exception of Sanchez — have been with hold from their club for the past year, so they could train full-time under national coach Bora Milutinovic.

And as a result, Mexico has developed into one of the finest teams in South America. If not the world, certainly one that is strong enough to go all the way in the finals.

The new Kempes

In 1978, it was a Spanish-based player who helped Argentina win the World Cup. His name was Mario Kempes, who was top scorer of the tournament. Can Sanchez do what Kempes did then?

The fans believe he can. They believe he is greater than Maradona, greater than Platini.

He wasn't able to play in lead-up matches because of club commitments and then because of a slight injury. But he wasn't on the field, for example, when Mexico lost 0-3 to England in Los Angeles two weeks ago.

The only problem that may confront Sanchez and Milutinovic, is one of jealousy. Will the other Mexicans, who

have devoted so much time and effort, take kindly to Sanchez simply jettisoning, in taking one of their positions and strutting about as the national hero?

Scissors specialist

One of Sanchez's specialties is the overhead scissors kick. He is scored that way so many times that defenders are as fearful when the ball is behind him in the air, as when he has it at his feet. And although he is not a giant, Sanchez is a threat in the air.

He also contributes more to the general build-up of his team's play than do most forwards, as he often drops back behind the front line and finds more space to create openings for others. That's a quality Sekularac admires. It's a quality he encourages among his charges at J.U.S.T.

Sanchez comes from a family whose sporting letter is in the soccer. His father Hector was a winger with Atlanta but had to retire early to make enough money to raise a family with six children.

Elder brothers Hector and Horacio also became professional players. Horacio kept his goal at Mexico in the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games.

Sister Herlinda represented Mexico as a gymnast in the 1976 Olympics in Montreal and another sister, Hilda, made it into the Olympic volleyball team.

Hugo, just turned 18, was the third of an amazing Sanchez family to compete at Montreal, where he also met his wife-to-be, Emma Portugal, the soccer coach's daughter.

While playing professionally for Mexico's Nacional, Antonio Dominguez (UNAM) Hugo Sanchez also completed a five-year dentistry degree and he practices as a dentist in Madrid. His coach at UNAM was none other than Bora Milutinovic, now coach of Mexico. Although disappointed with the team's showing in the World Cup in 1978, Sanchez started scoring goals again for UNAM and was the club's top scorer when he left for Atletico Madrid in 1981, signing up for \$700,000.

He returned for Mexico's World Cup qualifying campaign a few months later, but the Mexicans

were edged out by El Salvador and Honduras.

About Mexico's chances this time Hugo Sanchez says, "Bora Dominguez has made an excellent side and we will do very, very well. Bora thinks that young Luis Flores and I could be the deal combination up front."

Mexico's squad

BORA MILUTINOVIC, coach of 42 years played for Partizan Belgrade, Monaco and Nice of France before joining Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM) in the 1970s. Settled in Mexico, married a Mexican girl and coached UNAM before taking on the national team in January 1983. Has built what is widely considered Mexico's best team for decades. A personable man, he has also won over the Mexican press and fans.

PABLO LARIOS, goalkeeper, 25, Cruz Azul, 39 caps. Tall, agile. Recent injury has put his first team place in jeopardy.

OLAF HEREDIA, goalkeeper, 28, Leon, 23. Has made the most of injury to Larios, playing well enough to claim the first team place. Very strong in the air.

IGNACIO RODRIGUEZ BAENA, goalkeeper, 29, Atlante, 13. Tallest of the keepers. Little international experience.

MARIO TREJO, defender, 33, America, 85. Experienced, hard-tackling defender. Very fast, attacking defender.

ARMANDO PONCE, defender, 27, America, 42. Reserve center-back. Strong, temperamental. Good header but weak with ball at feet.

FERNANDO QUIRANTE, defender, 29, Guadalajara, 39. Sound center-back who first played for Mexico in 1978. Organized defence, strong in the tackle and likes to move forward into attack.

ELIX CRUZ, defender, 26, UNAM, 44. Partners Quirante in centre of defence, usually filling the stopper role. Short but good header.

RAUL SERVIN, defender, 23, UNAM, 24. Made his debut a year ago against Mexico. Small, stocky left-back, likes attacking, weak in defence.

RAFAEL AMADOR, defender, 27, UNAM, 35. Reserve left-back. Play on right or left. Strong tackler, lacks skill.

CARLOS MUÑOZ, midfielder, 25,

Leon, 46. Defensive player, but scores useful goals. Hard tackler, very good in the air.

MIGUEL ESPANA, midfielder, 22, UNAM, 41. Tidy, small, midfielder. Man most likely to make way for star Hugo Sanchez who missed warm-up cried playing for Real Madrid.

TOMAS BOY, midfielder, 33, Leon, 78. Veteran team captain known as "El Jefe" (the Boss). Ageing star, finds it hard to keep pace for 90 minutes, often substituted. Skilful left-footer but slowing.

Very good in dead ball situations. 23 goals for Mexico.

MANUEL NEGRETTE, midfielder, 28, UNAM, 54. The star when Sanchez is not playing. Expected to attract European interest. Midfield general, slight build, good with both feet, very skilful. 12 goals for Mexico.

CARLOS DE LOS COBOS, midfielder, 27, America, 34. Defensive player who has played at least one on fringe of first team.

ALEJANDRO DOMINGUEZ, midfielder, 24, America, 24. Often comes as substitute. Three goals for Mexico.

CRISTOBAL ORTEGA, midfielder, 28, America, 35. Reserve player, hard worker, but lacks skill.

HUGO SANCHEZ, forward, 27, Real Madrid, 58. The golden boy. FRANCISCO CRUZ, forward, 30, Monterrey, one. The baby of the team but called "Abuelo" (Grandfather) because he looks much older.

JAVIER AGUIRRE, forward, 27, Atlante, 54. Regular scorer in warm-up matches, right footed striker often at centre of attack. Two goals in Mexico's quick build-ups.

Good finisher.

CARLOS HERMOSILLO, forward, 23, America, 28. Young reserve striker who made his first division debut two years ago. Five goals for Mexico.

LUIS FLORES, forward, 24, UNAM, 46. Very mobile, small centre-forward who has scored in his career some spectacular goals, mainly headers. Most likely partner in Sanchez in Mexico's two-pronged attack. 20 goals for Mexico.

JAVIER HERNANDEZ, forward, 22, UNAM, 25. Strong left striker. Sets up more chances than he takes. Not very skilful on the ball. Two goals for Mexico.

Two goals for Mexico.

'Animals are coming'

"The animals are coming!" screamed the headlines in the Monterey daily newspaper after it was announced that England would play its first round matches against Poland, Portugal and Morocco in Monterey.

Time has caught up with England. The Mexican press had remembered that Sanchez's comments about Argentina in the 1966 finals, calling the Argentines "animals".

And the Mexicans had watched, with the rest of a horrified world, as English fans, left a trail of death and destruction throughout Europe in the past decade.

Shilton, Lineker

Veteran goalkeeper Peter Shilton already was an international star when a wide-eyed 11-year-old called Gary Lineker first saw him playing for home-town club Leicester.

Shilton, 36, will be playing in his second World Cup finals series. His international career began just months after the 1970 finals.

But Lineker, the scoring sensation of the English First Division, it will be his first finals series in an international career that started in May, 1984.

All strikers go through a goal drought but Lineker has a novel cure for such times.

"I go out and get a haircut. It started at Leicester when I hadn't scored for some time. I got a haircut and scored twice in my next game. It's something that has stuck with me."

Robson the key

England simply isn't the same without Bryan Robson in midfield.

He's had to fight back from two broken legs but the hard tackling, pacy midfielder with a knack for goals is the key to England's fortunes.

I was rather surprised when reading recent World Cup predictions made by "Soccer Action's" scribes. The speed with which two UK representative teams were dismissed as possible winners was amazing.

Well, this writer doesn't profess to be an expert on the international teams which will be competing for the 1986 World Cup, but as a keen observer I'm going to make a bold prediction — ENGLAND WILL WIN THE WORLD CUP.

Before any of the "experts" fall over in fits of hysteria let's look at the facts.

1. England has dominated club football in Europe for a decade. Playing against the differing types of European football (Latin or Germanic) has proven no obstacle. English teams are the ultimate professionals. Regardless of their teams' make-up (Irish, Welsh, Scottish or English), it's the team that acts out that professionalism.

2. 1985/86 is the first season of a European ban on English clubs due to last year's schmezzle in Brussels. Top English players, instead of playing up to 80 games a year, have "only" played about 60. This fact, as well as having something to prove to a world audience, is an incentive that should not be overlooked.

3. For the first time, the English squad has been together for over six weeks, living in luxurious surroundings in Colorado Springs, U.S.A. The atmospheric conditions of that camp are highly comparable to Mexican conditions. Not since 1966 has an English team been so well prepared.

4. Strikers and a goalkeeper can win games at any level. England has Peter Shilton in goal — say no more. Its strikers all score goals — Lineker, Dixon, Hargreaves — take your pick. How many other teams boast that amount of depth?

5. Hoddle and Robson in midfield. If strikers and a goalkeeper win matches then the inspiration comes from the team's heart — its midfield. Hoddle's ability to create havoc from free kicks (especially in the thin air of Mexico) and Robson's ability to score important goals. England has winning combinations in different areas of the team.

6. Forget the rubbish that says England can't play in Mexico because of the English First Division mentality of playing at 100 miles an hour. Have you ever watched Liverpool play in Europe? No 100 miles an hour stuff there — just a professional team adjusting to the need.

7. Opposition — perhaps in the past European teams in South America have had the cards stacked against them, although in Mexico in 1970 England was very unlucky to lose to a great Brazilian side and perhaps could have made amends for that earlier in a Ramsay tactical error against West Germany. This time I don't think that there is an outstanding South American team, unless of course all the ho-ho-ho from Brazil is just a big cover-up! If it is all true and Brazil is a shambles then, which team should England fear?

No, when all is considered, England has more plusses than any other team. In addition, the results over the last year have been excellent, bettering any other nation's record.

Uruguay confident

Germany lately has problems in getting a steady first team although it always does well in important tournaments," said Borrás.

"As for Denmark, which I have seen on video, it really has a fascinating team and I can't understand how it was put in the hat with supposedly weaker teams."

Semi spot?

Borrás, 65, has been coaching for over 25 years and predicts that Uruguay can reach the semi-finals in Mexico.

"If you want to win you have to beat many good teams on the way, so it might be better to meet some of the opposition at the start," said Borrás.

"We will have to start in full gear and if we get through this group the road to the championship could be easier and then I have no doubts that Uruguay will be in the semi-finals — and we must not forget that Uruguay has always put up its best performance in the most difficult circumstances."

Champion

Uruguay has won the World Cup twice — in 1930 and 1950 — and is back in the finals after 12-year absence. Significantly, it returns as champion of South America, a title it won for the 12th time when the tournament last was held in 1983.

According to last year's records, Uruguay is the strongest team on the South American continent.

Goalkeeper

But Uruguay faces some problems. The bulk of Borrás' squad plays with overseas clubs and that has hampered his preparation.

Another problem is who will play in goal.

While Rodolfo Rodríguez, Uruguay's most capped player and team captain surely is a certainty, the Uruguayan Press has been pushing hard for 26-year-old Ricardo Borrajo. Borrás isn't expected to bow to media pressure, though.

Sex

Borrás gives an insight into the way Uruguay will play when he says the team of players he wants in this team.

"He (the player) doesn't need a lot of money. He must be intelligent, temperamental, lightning spirit and mentally alert, and he must not be individualistic either on the field or off."

Physically he must be not less than 1.8m tall with enough kilos to bring the night light on the field, strong and with a hard shot, but he need not necessarily be a good dribbler.

He has it all mapped out right down to the players' sexual activity. He is more worried about those who are not married. Borrás says he soon will notice if they

The Scots are fast face up to reality

Over-optimism has been Scotland's failing in the past three World Cup finals but what has been frustrating at the same time is that the nation has so much potential. This time Scotland at least is aware of the mountain it has to climb.

The firm hand of manager Alex Ferguson has much to do with that.

The reluctant Ferguson took up the Mexico burden with a knee injury in Liverpool's English FA Cup final victory over Everton. I didn't think the injury was that bad but I've been asked to rest for at least three weeks. It's the same knock that forced me to call off the team against England at Wembley.

A big blow

But the recent loss of world class veteran Kenny Dalglish is a big blow.

I feel terrible, not for myself but for Alex (Ferguson). He has done so much for me this season," said Dalglish.

Dalglish was forced to pull out of the squad after aggravating a knee injury in Liverpool's English FA Cup final victory over Everton. I didn't think the injury was that bad but I've been asked to rest for at least three weeks. It's the same knock that forced me to call off the team against England at Wembley.

Superstar

Dalglish's exit has earned a reprieve for Steve Archibald of Barcelona.

His omission was a surprise for he has been spectacularly successful in Spanish soccer, noted fans for its cynical defensive style.

If manager Terry Venables was the King of Barcelona in the spring of 1984, just after the club had walked away with the First Division title, Archibald was the Crown Prince for it was his goals which set up the triumph.

Archibald made light of the intimidation from opponents by scoring an average of more than a goal every two games the same success rate he achieved with former club Aberdeen and Tottenham.

Ferguson, who also manages Aberdeen, once had a major run-in with Archibald after the match.

"Who do you think you are — a superstar?" Ferguson stormed.

Archibald stalked off, re-asserting his status as a superstar.

They succeeded to go out in the second half and win the

greatest, certainly the most expensive and undoubtedly the most controversial Polish footballer of all time.

Most referees cringe when they see Boniek walking onto the field.

He's always falling foul of referees and Polish football association officials. So often, in fact, that he's earned the unfattering nickname of "Crazy Horse".

A psychiatrist probably would trace Boniek's impulsive behaviour to authority back to his childhood. Boniek was born in the northern Polish provincial town of Bydgoszcz in March, 1956.

He was just seven when his neighbors started complaining that the youngster was breaking windows, alternating between the use of football and stunts.

Boniek passed through early school years as a temperamental, unruly puppy given to bad language and bad company.

Daniel Passarella is sick and tired of all the publicity Diego Maradona gets.

Argentina's 1978 World Cup captain wants to be treated as a normal person.

He's told coach Carlos Bilardo that if he continues to show favoritism to Maradona, some of the Argentines, including Passarella, will walk out.

And he took Bilardo to task for having played too negatively in qualifying rounds against Venezuela, Colombia and Peru. "Our soccer standard is far superior to theirs. They have become steamrolled," he said.

He donated his pay for playing in the qualifying games — \$15,000 — to a national organisation supplying food for the poor and he's the only player to have returned to his home country to return home from Italy, where he plays for Inter Milan.

And he makes no secret of his preference for Argentina's former coach, Cesar Luis Menotti, ahead of Bilardo.

"I'd like to say that I've been the second Beckenbauer but it simply isn't true, and everyone knows that," he says. "No, I've been succeeded because I've totally committed myself to giving my all for 90 minutes, totally committed to winning. Not because I've got a lot of money."

Passarella's candidates for the World Cup are: West Germany, Italy, England and France, with Brazil and Argentina still having room for improvement.

Maradona

Diego Maradona has played down England's 3-0 victory over Mexico in Los Angeles, just weeks before the World Cup.

The result doesn't mean anything Mexico lost not because

He was 12 when he joined local army club Zawisa but moved to Widzew in 1976 after a row with a Zawisa club official.

In 1979 he was banned for six months after incidents involving journalists and referees. He returned to Widzew after the reinstatement of goalkeeper Mlynarczyk to the national team. Mlynarczyk had turned up drunk at the airport before flying out with the national team for a World Cup qualifier against Malta.

In the summer of '82 he joined Juventus of Italy for over £2 million and last year transferred to Roma — wait for it ... in controversial circumstances.

Dziekanski

But Boniek has a rival in the glamor stakes — 23-year-old Danusz Dziekanowski, a superbly talented attacking midfielder, who is equally at home up front and with Boniek is expected to spearhead Poland's challenge.

Dziekanski joined Gwardia in 1978 and

Brazilian fans feel that by installing their team as favorite, London bookmakers have put fame ahead of form.

"Either these bookmakers are bluffing or they know nothing about soccer," said one fan, echoing the disillusionment which has swept Brazil recently.

The fan's comments have been backed up by two of the stars of Brazil's win in the 1970 finals in Mexico — Roberto Rivellino and the man they called The Hurricane, Jairzinho.

Rivellino and Jairzinho will return to Mexico as TV commentators but both acknowledge that the current Brazil team is a far cry from the 1970 model.

"Tele Santana (the manager) has a good bunch of players but no outstanding ones. When we went to Mexico we had more talent to choose from and they would all have been exceptional," said Rivellino.

No comparison

"I've signed a contract with a television network to work as a commentator in Mexico but frankly I'm not excited because I think modern football is a big disappointment," said Jairzinho.

"People ask me to compare the Brazil team of 1970 but how can I if I don't even have a team now, just a few days before the final?"

In 1970, even though we only reached our peak a week before the start of the competition, we knew the team which would play the first match against Czechoslovakia and earned respect for gamesmanship. He is a cautious coach who does

Dr Coach

Argentina's coach Carlos Bilardo is a qualified doctor. As a player, he won the South American Libertadores Cup three years running with Estudiantes de la Plata in the 1960s, and earned a reputation for gamesmanship. He is a cautious coach who does

First Cup

Ricardo Boninchi makes his World Cup debut at the age of 32. He is a play deep and supply the passes that will launch Maradona and Claudio Borghi into attack. Borghi is the brightest Argentinian prospect since Maradona.

Cool cat

Sergio Batista, could be a revelation in the World Cup. A team-mate of Borghi's at Argentinos Juniors, bearded Batista is an elegant, tall midfielder whose calm manner will suffer less from the heat and altitude in Mexico. He could do for Argentina what Gerson did for Brazil in the same condition in 1970.

Argentina's coach Carlos Bilardo is a qualified doctor. As a player, he won the South American Libertadores Cup three years running with Estudiantes de la Plata in the 1960s, and earned a reputation for gamesmanship. He is a cautious coach who does

Argentina's coach Carlos Bilardo is a qualified doctor. As a player, he won the South American Libertadores Cup three years running with Estudiantes de la Plata in the 1960s, and earned a reputation for gamesmanship. He is a cautious coach who does

Argentina's coach Carlos Bilardo is a qualified doctor. As a player, he won the South American Libertadores Cup three years running with Estudiantes de la Plata in the 1960s, and earned a reputation for gamesmanship. He is a cautious coach who does

Leaders:
22. Postecoglou (SMH).
19. Tapai (JUST).
18. D. Hunter (BL).
11. Kalantzis (SO).
10. Lamond (S.Cr), Moffitt (St.Ge).

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA



Les Scheinflug's dilemma: where to play El' Ali

Syd. Croatia 2 Marconi 2
Venue: Croatian Sports Centre
Crowd: 7278
Referee: Richard Lorenz
Cautions: Odzakovic, Rumora (C), Calderan (M)
Scorers: Arnold 34th, 88th (C), Lowe 81st, Brown 82nd (M)

An exciting game full of drama, four superb goals and some great midfield duels kept the strong 7000-plus crowd on its feet for most of this match which saw Croatia, then Marconi lead before the points finally were shared.

Manis Lamond managed to provide the spade work for Graeme Arnold early and the new Croatia midfield dynamo made no mistake with his header.

End-to-end play kept supporters of both sides in good voice but goals did not come until late in the second half with Marconi scoring two and Croatia one in the space of nine minutes.

Les Scheinflug was coaxed into sending Mark Jankovics on with 10 minutes left and he settled in quickly. He moved so freely that you could hardly imagine that he had been out of action for quite some time. He looked really keen to score.

And while Jankovics, brimming with confidence, was looking for goals, Croatia made a terrible error and paid dearly for it. Davide Lowe was left unmarked as he received a pass from Peter Treddinick. Lowe trapped the ball, then moved forward. He was surprised to see no one in his way and kept going until he was 18 metres out.

Lowe hit a right-footer which snuck inside the near post and out of Watson's reach.

So the man who did it with his late goal against Newcastle, had done it again, this time against Croatia. Only a minute later, Jankovics was on the scene, beating Jennings to the ball and backheading for the incoming Rod Brown to head past Watson to make it 2-1.

It was time for Croatia to hit back, but with only a few minutes left no-one believed that Croatia could do it. But Arnold had a different opinion. He came into the area, beating Calderan to the ball, to lead in a fine cross from Jennings to make it 2-2.

It was a thrill-a-minute affair and the goal came at the end of the match provided a fitting finale to a great game.

Marconi certainly has come out of its slump and will be looking towards better results in the coming weeks.

Man of the match:
GRAHAM ARNOLD
(Syd. Croatia)

while Croatia has little to fear if it continues this form. Australia today (Wednesday) and he will provide a huge headache for Marconi's boss — who does Scheinflug leave out with so many good players around?

— GEORGE STREETER



● Brunswick Juventus goalkeeper Yakka Banovic (pictured at left with team mate Peter Lewis) still is groggy after being flattened by Heidelberg's Paul Wilson on Sunday. Banovic couldn't continue after half time so Juventus sweeper John Zendoorn (pictured, at right with team mate David Campbell) took over in goal. Pictures: LES SHORROCK.



Yzendoorn in goal, Marley off



Craig MacKenzie

B. Juventus 4 Heidelberg 1
Scorers: Yzendoorn 8th, Patterson 21st, Dowe 79th, Cullen 90th (R); Lucchesi 70th (H)
Venue: Olympic Park No 2
Crowd: about 3000
Cautions: Lewis, Dowie (B); Marley (H)
Referee: Jim Rossis 6

Brunswick Juventus is every bit as awesome as it was in 1985 when it won the national championship.

It closes down and pressures better than any side I've seen so far this season. It also is the toughest side I've seen and whether you like it or not you don't win championships in this country unless you can kick as well as play.

Brian Garvey resigned as coach of Heidelberg last week then changed his mind. He probably regrets that now for his team was in this match for only a brief spell in the second half.

Juventus goalkeeper Yakka Banovic ran into a solid hit and shoulder challenge from Heidelberg striker Paul Wilson, the UK import making his NSL debut. That was in the 43rd minute. Banovic lay motionless for a minute or two while being treated. He got up and took off his jersey then put it back on again and continued for the next few minutes.

Banovic was taken to hospital at half time with a broken nose and concussion.

John Zendoorn went into goal, Peter Lewis took over as sweeper and substitute Mehmet Durakovic slotted into Lewis' right back spot.

Man of the match:
SCOTT PATTERSON
(Juventus)

Juventus had outplayed Heidelberg in the first half and thoroughly deserved its 2-0 lead.

Juventus hit the front in the 8th minute. John Dowe swung his corner over to the far post where Yzendoorn, unattended, headed in, leaving Heidelberg defenders puzzled.

A Dowie shot in the 15th minute struck a defender and lobbed into the air. Paul Wade headed well but Jeff Oliver pulled off a superb save to tip over as he moved back.

Juventus was completely in command.

Two minutes later an excellent cross from the right by Joe Palatides picked out the unmarked Patterson who headed in to make it 2-0.

Theo Selemidis and Joe Angelle were Heidelberg's central defenders but they were getting the run around.

A minute later a cross by Se-



● Heidelberg's Paul Wilson (left) and Boris Atanasovski made their NSL debuts against Brunswick Juventus last weekend.

lemidis was headed on by Wilson and Nick Deligiannis faced Yzendoorn on the right side of the area. Deligiannis steered then let fly but it went wide of the near post.

In the 76th minute, Steve Marley was sent off after a late tackle on Palatides. Referee Rossis had little option but to flash his red card for he'd booked Marley earlier.

Three minutes later, the issue was settled.

Palatides cut the ball back from the right superbly and the incoming Dowie struck a firm, low shot which sent the ball past Oliver and in off the far post.

Cullen couldn't be denied in the 90th minute. Sweeney got the ball on the right with Heidelberg caught out on the break. Patterson and Cullen were at the far post and it was Cullen who headed in Sweeney's fine cross.



● Heidelberg's Paul Wilson (left) and Boris Atanasovski made their NSL debuts against Brunswick Juventus last weekend.

lemlidis was headed on by Wilson and Nick Deligiannis faced Yzendoorn on the right side of the area. Deligiannis steered then let fly but it went wide of the near post.

In the 76th minute, Steve Marley was sent off after a late tackle on Palatides. Referee Rossis had little option but to flash his red card for he'd booked Marley earlier.

Three minutes later, the issue was settled.

Palatides cut the ball back from the right superbly and the incoming Dowie struck a firm, low shot which sent the ball past Oliver and in off the far post.

Cullen couldn't be denied in the 90th minute. Sweeney got the ball on the right with Heidelberg caught out on the break. Patterson and Cullen were at the far post and it was Cullen who headed in Sweeney's fine cross.

Owens, Maier transform Rosebud

Blacktown 2 N-Rosebud 2
Venue: Gabbie Stadium
Crowd: 846
Referee: J. Reeves 8
Scorers: Bradley 5th, Carroll 77th (B); Maier 67th, Jones 76th (NR)

Blacktown confirmed its status as the most unpredict-

able side in the competition.

The first-half performance should have netted Blacktown at least three or four goals, but for poor finishing and yet another memorable performance by Clint Gosling. The Newcastle custodian showed exceptional courage, diving at players' feet one moment, then flying to affect save after save and keep his side in touch.

In contrast, Joe Senkalski was pale indeed and was replaced at half time after putting in a listless display. Senkalski, one of the most gifted players in the country, showed lack of interest and bite.

At half time Senkalski was replaced by Neil Owens and things changed dramatically. Owens went into the backline for Ralph Maier who in turn shifted into midfield for Senkalski. Suddenly, from being inside its own half and defending, Newcastle-Rosebud was on the attack.

Blacktown so superior during the opening 45 minutes, saw John Bradley score after only five minutes when Martin Bourke capitalised on a

Man of the match
CLINT GOSLING
Newc-Rosebud

mistake by Paul Crabtree. He found Slater and a quick cross followed for Bradley to beat Gosling. Numerous openings were squandered for the rest of this half, then came the Demons of the second half, uninspired and sluggish.

Maier, instrumental in most of his side's attacks, rose high in the 67th to head home after David Curtis had misjudged a corner kick. Maier intercepted a cross to find an empty net with Curtis stranded.

Only minutes later, Newcastle went ahead with yet another headed goal, this time from Mark Jones. John Cavanah, Newcastle's import from Tranmere, rounded Darren Northam before crossing for Jones to beat Curtis.

Blacktown struck back within a minute before finding Carroll close to the line and this

Two sent off and Cooper misses penalty



Ricky Rosso

Man of the match:
KIERAN COOPER
(Brisb. City)

Brisb. City 2 AC-Juventus 2
Venue: Spencer Park
Crowd: 2013
Scorers: Reis 27th, Villani 38th, Melia 51st, Cooper 56th
Cautions: AC: Maxwell, BC: Cooper
Send-offs: BC: Caird, Reis
Referee: Gordon Nicholson 5

Brissbane City will request that Brisbane referee Gordon Nicholson no longer be assigned to its home matches following sensational incidents in this clash.

The match was cruising to an uneventful 2-2 draw when out of almost nothing, City had two players — Alan Reis and George Caird — sent off in the 79th minute.

The incident started when Nicholson waved play on during an Adelaide Juventus attack despite linesman Wayne Smith signalling offside, then dropping his flag.

Juve nearly scored from the attack. Joe Mullen missed an open goal, and in the frustration that followed Caird abused the linesman and the referee for their indecision. He received a yellow card but continued his tirade and subsequently was sent from the park.

Juve was awarded an indirect free kick on the edge of the six-yard box. City weathered that kick, getting a free kick of its own. But in the run-back for the kick, words were exchanged between Nicholson and Reis who promptly was shown the red card.

Players from both sides were dumbfounded and it proved all too much for one City spectator who burst through the gates in the ground fence and headed towards the referee. To the club's credit, the spectator was restrained and security stepped up for the majority of the game.

But afterwards, the City officials and players claimed Nicholson's actions had cost

them the chance to win their first game under new coach Billy Wilkinson, who replaced Jim Hermiston who resigned earlier in the week.

"It was the worst refereeing exhibition I have seen in Brisbane and I have seen a few," Wilkinson said.

The Queensland Soccer Referees Federation defended Nicholson and said he had acted within the rules which did not allow players to swear at officials.

Wilkinson re-arranged Hermiston's side into a 4-4-2 formation which gave City much more competitiveness in midfield.

With keeper Bobby Cox withdrawing with influenza, former Box Hill keeper Peter Harrison was given his NSL chance, and the youngster performed creditably, making two good saves which rescued the game for City.

Adelaide Juventus also fielded a youngster in 16-year-old Steve Nisicliou who made two top-class saves in the first half. With Willie McNally likely to be out for several weeks with a chipped bone, Juventus supporters should have no fears about their replacement.

With a new coach and a new line-up that saw the return of the brilliant ball from Roberto Lettieri, the South American curled a delightful pass from the left to the far post where Reis met it sweetly to sidefoot into goal.

Adelaide Juventus answered 11 minutes later with a well-taken penalty by Charlie Villani after George Caird had brought down Joe Mullen when simple shutting down would have sufficed.

The visitors, who were always involved but never really dominated, caught City napping just after halftime and netted six minutes into the half. Steve Maxwell, who had a quiet game, played a deep cross and Sergio Melia ran 10 metres without being picked up to nod into the goal.

Then Cooper struck to put his side on level terms. The Irishman rose above the Juve defence to nod home a Reis cross.

After the send-offs, City remained competitive despite being reduced to nine men, and Cooper had a dream opportunity to net a winner when he earned a penalty with six minutes to go.

The alleged trip looked a little like a fall and Matic described it as "compensation penalty for the send-offs".

But with victory within grasp, the normally reliable Cooper blew high over the crossbar for a fair result, but a disappointing day for both sides.

SOCCER ACTION is published every Wednesday by Newspress Pty. Ltd., incorporated in NSW, a Division of Age Publications, 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000. P.O. Box 628E, Melbourne 3001.

Distributed in Victoria by Magdiss Pty. Ltd., 250 Spencer St, Melbourne 3000; in SA by John Fairfax and Sons Ltd.; in Tasmania by The Mercury, 93 Macquarie Street, Hobart 7000; in NSW Queensland and WA by Network Distribution Company, 54 Park Street, Sydney 2000.

EDITOR: Laurie Schwab
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Craig MacKenzie
MANAGING EDITOR: Leonard J. Shaw
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Phillip Diamataris
NEW SOUTH WALES: Gordon Durnford, The Globe
Brisb. City Co., 64 Victoria St, North Sydney 2060. Phone: (02) 957 2833

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Allan Taylor, Market Media Services, 70 McLaren St, Adelaide, 5000. Phone: 223 6629 or 223 6344.

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Paula Parker
 Address all correspondence to Soccer Action, 250 Spencer St, Melbourne 3000.

Printer and Publisher L.J. Shaw, 38 Granville Grove, Mt Eliza, Victoria 3830
 Printed by Waverley Offset (03-560 5111)
 Proprietor: Newspress, a division of Syme Media Pty. Ltd., of 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000

"The publisher's terms and conditions are set out in its current Advertising Rate Card, which is available on request. They include an exemption clause, a monetary limitation of liability clause and an indemnity from the advertiser and any advertising agent. Advertisers and agents are advised to read the Card before placing any advertisement or series of advertisements."

ALLISON'S SPORTS

355 CENTRE RD, BENTLEIGH
 (03) 557 1917

"Your one-stop soccer shop for all your needs."

All the top brands

plus

Custom-made soccer outfits and tracksuits — many different materials and colors.

HUGE RANGE OF BOOTS

"If we don't stock it — it's not available"

Come in and talk to Margaret or Bill Allison, for friendly competitive service

GEELONG SOCCER AND SPORTS CLUB

requires the services of a
FIRST TEAM COACH
 for the 1986 soccer season

Applications in writing to
The Secretary
Miss D McCaffrey
1 Armaytage St, Corio
Geelong 3214
 Applications close 30th June 1986

Man of the match:
ERNE TAPAI
(Foots JUST)

Green Gully 1 Foots JUST 3

Goals: 0-1 Tapai 2nd, 0-2 Stosic 36th, 1-2 Lewis 88th, 1-3 Bozinovski 89th.
Venue: Green Gully Reserve.
Crowd: about 2000.
Referee: Alan Kibbler 6.
Cautions: Lewis (GG), Flavell (GG), Stosic (JUST).

"This is the best team I have seen since the National League started," Green Gully president Guy Spiteri said about J.U.S.T.

His sentiments were echoed by former J.U.S.T. player and coach Cedo Cirakovic, former Keilor-Austria star Guenter Gargman and Green Gully's George Campbell who resumes next week after a long lay-off due to injury.

Nightmare is over

Man of the match:

STEVE WINN

(Inter Monaro)

Inter Monaro 0 SC-Hakoah 0

Crowd: 666.
Ref: Dennis Voutsinas 8.
Cautions: Watson, Barnes (SCH), Titilas (IIM).

Monaro's nightmare ended last Sunday when an inept, listless, half-hearted Sydney City Hakoah allowed it to steal a priceless point at Seiffert Oval.

It was a point Monaro thoroughly deserved.

It turned in a total team effort from the very first whistle.

And even Hakoah's coach Eddie Thompson admitted that Monaro played well, and added: "We won't be the only side who comes here and drops a point."

"They are by no means the worst side we have played this season."

Thompson kept his most scathing criticism for the state of the playing surface at Seiffert Oval.

"It had lumps and bumps all over it. The ball bounced everywhere and anywhere. We like to play it out from the back but you couldn't play soccer on a pitch like that."

But it was Hakoah which created the only clear goal-scoring chances of the game. Yet it couldn't beat Monaro's rugged stopper, "Mr. Consistent", Ricki Budini.

Late in the first half Hakoah's front-runner Grant Lee thumped in a shot from 10 metres during a goalmouth melee — but it was Budini who cleared near the goal-line.

He did the same much more auspiciously just nine minutes into the second half.

It was a match-saving effort. Full marks, however, to Monaro for its total team commitment.

Everyone was totally committed — no one more so than big striker Steve Winn, diminutive midfielder Ian Wotherpoon and strapping teenage defender Joe Gageggi.

All day Winn put himself above superbly and his battle with Hakoah's Ean Rodrigues was one of the highlights of the match. Young Gageggi totally controlled Frank Farina and Wotherpoon never stopped running.

— PETER WINDSOR

SEKI'S J.U.S.T. BEST YET!



Laurie Schwab

"This J.U.S.T. team is the only NSL side I'd pay to watch," said Campbell, who starred with Hellas and Macedonia before joining Green Gully.

"Magic, just magic," said Pat Bannon, player-coach of Melbourne Hungary, Green Gully coach George Murray said JUST was the best team he'd seen in Australian soccer.

They made us look foolish for long periods," said Green Gully's former Soccerco Tommy Cumming.

Costa Theodosopoulos, playing his first game for Green Gully after transferring from Melbourne-Hungary, added: "I take my hat off to their coach, Dragoslav Sekularac. Their soccer is nothing short of magnificent."

Defending a two-goal lead in the second half, J.U.S.T. gave Green Gully's Scott Fraser and Tommy Cumming openings to launch dangerous drives at goal, but Zoran Nikitovic again proved to be one of the finest goalkeepers in Australia.

"When they had the ball, they did a lot with it. What did we do when we got it?" asked Cumming.

Captain Zdravko Lujic beat his opponent, David Hogben, in the 90th second of play and crossed the ball for Tapai to head home the first goal.

Hogben cleared a header from Stosic off the goal line with goalkeeper Lou Denys beat in the 12th minute, before Stosic swerved a free kick past Denys for the second goal nine minutes before half time.

Theodosopoulos doubles as a male model. He won a jockstrap modelling competition at prominent Melbourne night spot recently and certainly showed a lot of style in crossing to the far post for a header by Ward which was finished off by Paul Lewis for Green Gully's consolation goal two minutes from the end.

But Vadi Bozinovski, emulating Stosic's earlier effort, swerved another free kick past Denys to restore the two-goal lead in the final seconds.

Sekularac, the former Yugoslav international stands alone as the finest coach seen in Australian soccer. He has turned a

team that finished last in 1963 into the most attractive, most attacking side in the history of the league.

But in attacking the way it does, J.U.S.T. often leaves itself open to the opposition.

Green Gully had scoring chances in the following incidents:

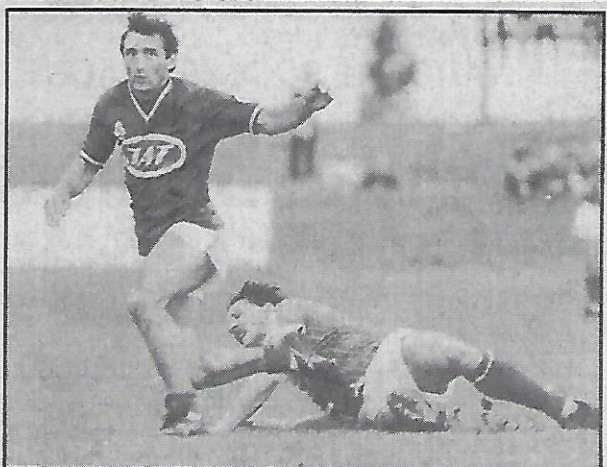
22nd min: A strong overlap by Steve Douglas resulted in a square ball aimed at Danny Ward in the middle, but he's foiled by a desperation tackle from Curovic.

30th min: Another overlap, and this time Douglas plays a one-two with Cumming but Nikitovic comes out and smotherers at Douglas's feet.

41st min: A forward pass from Theodosopoulos puts Paul Lewis through but his shot goes wide of the near post.

68th min: Cumming latches onto a short defensive clearance and launches a powerful low drive, which Nikitovic punches clear two-fisted.

Vlatko Belic was hurt early in play, but stayed on until 10 minutes from the end, when Simic replaced him. Belic was back after suspension, to take the place of sweeper Vojislav Vukcevic who was suspended.



• Footsray J.U.S.T.'s brilliant captain, Zdravko Lujic, crosses despite a challenge from Green Gully's Steve McLelland. Picture: CARMELO BAZZANO.

14-team rules unjust, says 'Cross

Man of the match:

GARRY McDOWALL

(SM-Hellas)



Peter Desira

Geo Cross 3 SM-Hellas 1

Scorers: 1-0 Bain 63rd, 2-0 Gilder 68th, 2-1 Crainie 78th, 3-1 Richardson 91st pen.
Venue: Chaplin Reserve.
Referee: Stuart Mellings 9.
Cautions: Crainie (SMH).

This victory highlighted the injustice towards which the National League is heading at the end of the season.

George Cross has taken three years to get it act together, astutely looking after its pennies. Now it sees John Gardiner's coaching work beginning to pay off.

On Sunday, it made a mockery of South Melbourne Hellas' highpowered buying, yet in all probability, Hellas will get the nod ahead of Cross for next year's reduced league.

It comes as little surprise that most George supporters have little regard for OASL administrators and that the club's committee continues to push hard for a rethink on the restructured league.

"We are not against the League being reduced from 24

to 14 clubs. What we have been against from the start is the criteria by which the teams will be chosen. We firmly believe that the top seven clubs should be the ones admitted," Cross president Alf Zahra said after the victory.

Zahra and a section of Cross supporters were puffed by comments made by Hellas coach John Margaritis about Hellas having to overcome the pitch on top of taking on a stubborn defence.

"That may have been the case last year, but you could play snooker on our pitch this year and it is in much better condition than Middle Park," Zahra said.

George Cross proved the better side in the first half and finally broke down the stubborn resistance of Bobby Russell, Steve Blair and Garry McDowall to take the lead in the 63rd minute.

Roger Bain caught a half clearance from Blair and hammered a shot from inside the box out of Peter Laumets' reach.

Gardiner replaced Noel Mitten with "supersub" John Markovski and the 16-year-old set up the second goal five minutes later.

Hellas had been largely ineffective in midfield and their game became more ragged after failing behind, forcing Margaritis to send in Ken Murphy for his first game in six weeks. That resulted in a reshuffle, with Alan Davidson moving into the forward line in place of the subdued Chris Middlemast.

But just when Cross seemed to be headed for a comfortable

able victory, Danny Crainie conjured up a good goal from a free kick.

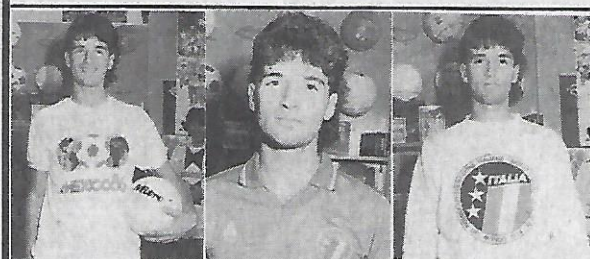
Hellas exerted massive pressure in the closing 10 minutes until Carl Gilder, making a dash into the box, was brought down by McDowall and Steve Richardson stroled up to send Laumets the wrong way with his penalty to seal victory for Cross.



**SUNSHINE TRAVEL
SERVICE Pty. Ltd.**

MALTA FROM \$1230
& OTHER EUROPEAN DESTINATIONS
3 DICKSON STREET, SUNSHINE
Ph 312 4711

1986 WORLD CUP SOUVENIR OFFER



**MEXICO 86
T-SHIRT**

**ITALIA 86
TEAM TOP**

**ITALIA 86
CHAMPIONS WINDCHEATER**

T-SHIRTS	SIZES	BOYS 12	BOYS 14	14	16	18	20	22
ITALIA CHAMPIONS T-SHIRTS	\$13 00							
MEXICO 86 T-SHIRTS	\$13 00							

WINDCHEATERS	Sizes	XS	S	M	L	XL
ITALIA CHAMPIONS WINDCHEATER	\$20					
MEXICO 86 WINDCHEATER	\$20					
ITALIA 86 TEAM TOP	\$20					

ADD \$1.50 FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING or \$2.50 FOR 2 OR MORE ITEMS.

Send Money Order, Bank Cheque or personal cheque (subject to clearing) to . . .

1986 World Cup Souvenir Offer.
P.O. Box 1167
Thornbury, Victoria, 3071.

Allow 21 days delivery



**TEAMS WANTED
FOR SUNDAY COMPETITION**

★ MENS ★ WOMENS

Ring MERV — 367 1633

Lot 2 McKechnie St,

St Albans

(Next to St Albans Hotel)

**ST ALBANS
INDOOR
SOCCER
&
CRICKET
CENTRE**



OLYMPIC AIRWAYS

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA



Why was Biskic substituted?

Man of the match:
ZORAN ILIOSKI
(Makedonia)



Ken Kontra

Makedonia 2 M. Croatia 1
Venue: Connor Reserve
Crowd: 4500 (estimate)
Scorers: Heys 87th, Spink 86th
Cautions: Cole, Van Egmond, Deankovic, Bonacic, Todoric
Referee: Tony Martell 7

This was a triumphant return to Australian soccer for former youth international striker Warren Spink. Spink — who has been trialing with English club Luton Town, for the past five months — although closely marked by

George Hannah, managed to break clear on two occasions to win the match for Makedonia. Mile Necovski, playing his first full game since recovering from injury, also contributed on both occasions, first putting Spink through in the eighth minute on the right and Spink's far post cross was

headed home by Graham Heys, ghosting in behind the Croatia defence.

Then, in the 86th minute, it was Necovski who gave Spink the ball on the edge of the penalty area. Spink responded by bursting through the defence and celebrating his return with a well taken goal.

The disappointing link in Makedonia's attack was Sean Lane. He was completely marked out of the game by Dave McIntosh and barely touched the ball during the 90 minutes. With man-of-the-match Zoran Ilioski and Heys dominating the left side of the park, Lane played mostly in the middle where, due to his strength and heading ability, McIntosh had a definite advantage.

At the other end, only Robert Markovac looked like preventing the fifth consecutive defeat for Croatia. In the first minute he tested Phil Traianedes and, in the 33rd minute, rattled the crossbar with a thundering shot following a good build-up featuring Steve Gojevic.

Gojevic celebrated his inclusion in the Soccerro squad with an outstanding game in midfield, well supported by

Josip Biskic. The latter was, surprisingly, substituted for Davor Todoric during the interval and, while Gojevic never stopped trying, Croatia did not have the same fluency in midfield in the second half.

Generally, the game deteriorated in the second stanza and, apart from a couple of attempts by Markovac, Croatia was easily contained by Ian Dobson and his co-defenders.

Spink's goal, with four minutes of play remaining, put an end to any hope the visitors had of salvaging a point.

While Croatia had some good individual performances from Gojevic, McIntosh, Markovac, Hannah and Biskic, as a team it was disjointed and, caretaker coach Luka Bonacic, like the proverbial boy with the wheelbarrow, has the job in front of him to instil confidence and cohesion.

I am sure Makedonia coach Bill Murray has more pleasant things to contemplate.

Necovski came through his first full league match with flying colors. Spink is back, Steve Smith should be available for selection this week, and UK import Martin Woodall should arrive shortly.



Mitre Sports, the company which for so long has supported Australian soccer, now has cemented its association with "Soccer Action" by sponsoring the 1986 NSL Top Scorer award.

The winner receives a magnificent trophy and a complete equipment kit. Included in the kit is a tracksuit, Mitre multiplex ball, shin guards, etc.

So this year's top scorer will be next year's best prepared player thanks to Mitre. The value of the prize is \$500.

- 7. Kosmina (SC-Hak)
- 5. Lewis (GC), Maxwell (ACJ)
- 4. Latif (JUST), Cooper (BC), Smith, Lape (Mak), Zinei (BJ), Cranine (SMH), Kalantzis, Johnston (SO), Carroll (B), Rivero (W), Brown, Lowe (Marc).

APIA TO GET KATHOLOS?



Mike Mikolajczyk

Man of the match:
JANUSZ BARAN
(APIA)

APIA 1 Wollongong 1
Venue: Lambert Park
Crowd: 2004
Scorers: Rivero 6th, Baran 76th
Cautions: Bundalo, Hristovski, Butler (A), Girald, Green, Murray (W)
Sent off: Gaffney (W), Dounis, Butler (A)
Referee: Arthur Owens 4.

APIA is negotiating with Peter Katholos, who is returning home after a stint with Greek first division side Larissa, hopes to have him and another Polish player, Edward Lorens, in its line-up for the next game.

Rival coaches Rate Rasic and John Fleming were still seething hours after the match over the refereeing performance of Arthur Owens. Three players were sent off and six cautioned.

In the opening minutes, Bundalo barreled Morlando over the sideline for the first caution. From then on everyone and everything was fair game.

A few petty fouls followed and in the sixth minute the first piece of real play produced a goal. Defender Tom Steven swung at the ball, missed it,

swung again and sent striker Kotamindis crashing to the turf. Uruguayan midfielder Saul Rivero blasted the penalty into the roof of the net.

In the 76th minute APIA won a free kick just outside Wollongong's penalty area. Keeper Young lined up his wall and retreated to one side. Polish import Janusz Baran clipped the ball over the wall and into the top corner, much to the disbelief of the Wolves' defence.

Baran showed some delightful touches and it was a pity that several of his team-mates failed to read his promptings.

Ten minutes from the end an ugly scene took place. Gaffney needlessly and crudely elbowed Bundalo from behind, sending the APIA player sprawling. Enraged substitute Dounis ran over and thumped Gaffney. An all-in brawl developed before order was restored and both culprits were given their marching orders.

In the third minute of stoppage time, Butler fouled Green, which caused a second bookable offence and the diminutive APIA midfielder was shown the third red card of the afternoon.

Bonus for Orszagh, Saints



Peter Scott

St George 2 Canterbury 1

Goals: 0-1 Borges 43rd, 1-1 Orszagh 47th, 2-1 Ollerenshaw 53rd
Venue: St George Stadium
Crowd: 1475
Referee: Ken Small 3
Cautions: R. O'Shea, Moffitt, Orszagh (St G), Barker, Zrilic, Thanmids (Can)

Could the lure of filthy lucre have been the deciding factor in St George Budapest's invaluable win on a day of draws in the NSL's Northern Division?

Maybe, just maybe. The Saints' import from Yugoslavia, Miklos Orszagh, did mention to his boss Frank Arok before the game that, with his wife and two kids arriving in Sydney within a week, he is somewhat short of cash. Arok's rejoinder? What better way to come into some money than by

picking up a winning bonus? Obviously Orszagh took the advice to heart.

With his team one down and struggling to get back into the game against an energetic Canterbury just two minutes after the halftime break, Orszagh unleashed a 25-metre thunderbolt to equalise and set his team on the road to an invaluable win.

Orszagh's goal nullified the visitors' advantage, gained in the 43rd minute. Another Yugoslav "guest worker", Peter Zrilic, floated a well-taken free kick from the left wing into the five-metre box where former Hakoah striker Nelio Borges popped up to head past Mike Gibson.

While Peter Petkovski was the centre of attention in the first half, that role was taken over by Scott Ollerenshaw after the change of ends. During the break Arok axed two-thirds of his forward line, substituting the local young-

Man of the match:
SCOTT OLLERENSHAW
(St George)

ster and another St George product, Andy Koczka, for Scottish import Porter, and Hakoah signing, Fletcher.

A wise move this turned out to be.

The big, strong Koczka immediately put a lot of bite into the attack, but Ollerenshaw was the one who absolutely bedeviled the Berries' defence for the full 45 minutes he was on deck.

His goal, the result of a magnificent 20-metre drive into the top right-hand corner of the net, bagged the points, but he did more than just that.

He constantly shrugged off his shadows, once lobbing the advancing Barker, only to see the ball cleared off the line by a desperate Akoutas, later setting up Koczka who, in turn, presented a great chance to Petkovski, who completely miskicked the ball about three metres out.

MEXICO '86 WORLD CUP SPECIALS

Barkly Square SPORTS POWER Centre

SHOP 48, BARKLY SQUARE SHOPPING CENTRE
100 SYDNEY ROAD, BRUNSWICK PH: 387 8774

At the Soccer Power House down come the prices, up come your savings!
On all top brand soccer boots.

DIADORA "CABRINI PRO"	.....	WAS \$160.00	NOW \$140.00
ADIDAS "STRATOS SL"	.....	WAS \$150.00	NOW \$130.00
NIKE "TIEMPO SUPREMO" SCREW-IN	.....	WAS \$155.00	NOW \$135.00
NIKE "TIEMPO SUPREMO" MOULDED	.....	WAS \$150.00	NOW \$130.00
LOTTO "FULVIO COLLOVATI"	.....	WAS \$135.00	NOW \$115.00
PATRICK "KEEGAN TACTICS"	.....	WAS \$130.00	NOW \$110.00
ADIDAS "COPA MUNDIAL"	.....	WAS \$130.00	NOW \$110.00
LOTTO "UIBALDO RIGHETTI"	.....	WAS \$130.00	NOW \$110.00
PUMA "WORLD CUP"	.....	WAS \$120.00	NOW \$100.00
NEW BALANCE SCREW IN	.....	WAS \$120.00	NOW \$95.00
NEW BALANCE MOULDED	.....	WAS \$115.00	NOW \$90.00
ADIDAS "TRIUMPH"	.....	WAS \$90.00	NOW \$80.00
DIADORA "SUPER STAR"	.....	WAS \$90.00	NOW \$80.00
NIKE "HOTSPUR"	.....	WAS \$80.00	NOW \$70.00
ADIDAS "ECLIPSE II"	.....	WAS \$80.00	NOW \$70.00
PUMA "ACHILLES WEDGE"	.....	WAS \$70.00	NOW \$60.00
ADIDAS "CHAMPION"	.....	WAS \$60.00	NOW \$50.00
PUMA "BRASIL"	.....	WAS \$45.00	NOW \$38.00
ADIDAS "INVADER"	.....	WAS \$40.00	NOW \$34.00
PUMA "CHELSEA"	.....	WAS \$40.00	NOW \$34.00
NIKE "TYPHON" KIDS	.....	WAS \$40.00	NOW \$34.00
PUMA "SANTOS"	.....	WAS \$35.00	NOW \$29.00
PUMA "RAPID"	.....	WAS \$35.00	NOW \$29.00

From 25 different styles of boots, I am sure you can find the boots to suit you and, most important, the price to suit your pocket. But, remember, you have only two weeks for these amazing specials! And, because some of the styles are very limited, you had better hurry up, or you will miss the train!

Contact Tony or Angie Severino, and they will advise you on the right boot to suit your need.

Kalantzis the savior

Syd Olympic 1 Canberra 1

Venue: Pratten Park
Crowd: 4706
Referee: Terry Seacy 8
Scorers: Dunn 60th, Kalantzis 70th

It has been three years since Olympic celebrated with a win against Canberra at Pratten Park.

And it was no surprise to see Canberra forge ahead in the 60th minute. Hilton Phillips, who created all sorts of trouble for Olympic's defence, walked past week tackles to the byline before crossing into the penalty area for Jason Dunn to head past bewildered Gary Meier.

Olympic was the lucky recipient of a few favorable bounces which gave Coady two chances. One was cleared off the line by Cant and the other hit the post. Soper had an opening in the first five minutes, only to see Franken dive at his feet, then came the best chance for Olympic in the 15th with Simon Brandt in the clear and running for goal. Cant gave him a good 10 metres start but managed to catch up inside his own penalty area and effect a goal-saving tackle.

Estavillo and Soper came close in the 42nd and 45th but Franken managed to effect a

Man of the match:
JASON DUNN
(Canberra)

one-handed save from Estavillo then saw Soper blast his shot over the bar from eight metres!

With only 20 minutes to go, Estavillo was replaced by Johnston, and Raskopoulos took a free kick 40 metres out. Chris Kalantzis outjumped Dunn and Burke to head over Franken for the equaliser!

ALEX VESIC

'Cross in

George Cross has returned to the "top 14" at the expense of Melbourne Croatia.

The 14 teams for the 1987 NSL will be chosen according to a formula which awards points for past performance, placing this year and crowd support. Here are the points totals so far (crowd figures used are not official).

85.0 B'wick Juventus	81.3 Syd Croatia	76.9 Syd Olympic	72.6 Syd C. Hakoah	70.9 Makedonia	70.4 Wollongong	69.3 Foots JUST	68.4 Marconi	67.2 SM-Hellas	65.7 Adel C. Juventus	61.7 H'berg-Alexander	52.9 St Geo Budapest	51.6 Sun George Cross	50.3 Blacktown	43.1 Briss Lions	42.2 Melb Croatia	41.0 Adel Hellas	37.0 APIA	34.6 Newc-Rosebud	31.7 Green Gully	30.8 C'berra Olympians	26.9 Briss City	26.2 Canterbury M'ville	25.0 Inter Monaro
----------------------	------------------	------------------	--------------------	----------------	-----------------	-----------------	--------------	----------------	-----------------------	-----------------------	----------------------	-----------------------	----------------	------------------	-------------------	------------------	-----------	-------------------	------------------	------------------------	-----------------	-------------------------	-------------------

Youth league

National Youth League Southern Division: Juventus 1 Heidelberg 3, Green Gully 1 Footscray JUST 2, Brighton 2, Frankston Pines 2	Nunawading City 3, Sunshine GX 1 SM-Hellas 0, Makedonia 0 Melb Croatia 1
W D L F A P	
Geo Cross	6 1 29 2 13
Melb Croatia	5 2 1 21 6 12
Hellas	5 2 1 20 8 12
Brighton	5 1 2 21 6 11
Heidelberg	4 2 1 18 15 10
Makedonia	1 6 1 10 6 8
Juventus	3 1 4 9 10 7
Nunawading	2 3 3 12 19 7
Footscray JUST	3 3 3 12 16 6
Green Gully	1 2 4 6 11 5
Frankston Pines	2 1 5 13 26 5
Fawkner	0 0 8 2 48 0

CLARINDA SOCCER CLUB

requires

EXPERIENCED STRIKER

Good wages for suitable player

Contact Secretary
GEORGE BOUROZIKAS

Bus. 544 4466
A.H. 560 5604

THE OLYMPIC AIRWAYS
SOCCER LEAGUE
PRESENTS
**THE QUARTER FINALS OF
THE NANDA CUP**



Marshall Soper

**FRIDAY 30th MAY
SYDNEY OLYMPIC**

VS

CANBERRA OLYMPIANS

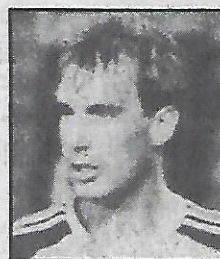
At St George Stadium 8pm

**SUNDAY 1st JUNE
HEIDELBERG UTD
ALEXANDER**

VS

BLACKTOWN CITY

at Olympic Park No.1 3pm



Don MacLeod

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS

VS

CROYDON CITY

at Hindmarsh Stadium, 2.30pm



Graham Honeyman

**WEDNESDAY 4th JUNE
BRISBANE CITY**

VS

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH

at Perry Park 8pm



John Kosmina

RICOH CAMERAS

Proud to sponsor

THE 1986 DOCKERTY CUP

La Coppa del Mondo e' ormai in pieno clima di vigilia con la partita inaugurale Italia-Bulgaria in programma per sabato prossimo a Città del Messico.

Gli Azzurri di Bearzot, nonostante i mediocri risultati conseguiti durante i quattro anni di regno come campioni del mondo, si presentano a questo esame conclusivo con tutte le carte in regola per laurearsi primi della classe ancora una volta.

Sull'ossatura della formazione che sgombrino il campo in Spagna quattro anni fa, Bearzot ha innestato con estrema pazienza e mille prove un drappello di nuove forze che sicuramente completeranno un assieme affiatato e dinamico capace di produrre i risultati che tutti vorremmo (anche se alcuni non credono che arriveranno).

Rispetto alla Spagna, in Messico non potremo contare su "Pablito" Rossi nelle vesti di inesorabile giustiziere delle difese avversarie e, forse, bene avrebbe fatto Bearzot a portarsi Pruzzo che nelle ultime battute del campionato italiano si era dimostrato l'attaccante più in forma. Ma potrebbe benissimo succedere che vedremo in azione un Rossi "redivo" o un nuovo Rossi che potrebbe essere Galdieri, o Sereza o anche l'ormai collaudato Altobelli.

Una cosa e' certa: Bearzot sicuramente sa quello che fa e può contare su una formazione che non mollerà (tanto facilmente il titolo di campione del mondo).

Come al solito prevediamo un inizio in sordina per l'Italia che mirerà a qualificarsi per il secondo turno senza rischiare troppo e senza scoprire tutte le sue carte. Non ci meraviglieremo nemmeno se gli Azzurri non finissero in testa al loro girone, poiché gli incontri di qualificazione non dicono assolutamente niente oltre a promuovere le prime due (e le migliori terze) al turno successivo.

Non aspettiamoci quindi fuo-

VIVA ITALIA!

with ROCKY DI ZIO

FORZA ITALIA!

campo con la Juventus di Adelaide terza a due lunghezze assieme al Preston e al Sunshine.

Il Brisbane City e' riuscito a resistere all'attacco della Juventus di Adelaide anche perché per l'occasione era guidato dal nuovo allenatore Wilkinson che ha confermato il detto che la scopa nuova spazza meglio.

Nel girone settentrionale tutte le squadre tirbane hanno pareggiato (0-0) e l'Inter Monaro che ha così conquistato il primo punto di questo campionato).

Calcio australiano

Ritornando alla scena locale da rilevare la travolgente vittoria della Juventus di Melbourne che ha dato un secco 4-1 all'Heidelberg nonostante avesse giocato il secondo tempo con un portiere di fortuna (il libero Zendeon) dopo l'infortunio toccato a Banovic (frattura del setto nasale) al finire del secondo tempo.

La rete della bandiera dell'Heidelberg (messa a segno da Claudio Lucchesi) e, venuta nel secondo tempo quando era in porta Zendeon, quindi lo sfortunato Banovic, conserva ancora la sua imbattibilità che dura dalla prima partita di campionato e che e' arrivata quindi a quasi 600 minuti di gioco.

A proposito di Banovic, egli aprirà in questi giorni un negozio di articoli sportivi al 578 Barkley Street, Footscray e sarà felice di servire tutti i tifosi juventini.

La vittoria della Juventus e del JUST (che conserva il primato in classifica) sta cominciando a seminare il resto del

Nella Lega Statale i risultati sono andati nuovamente a favore del Fawkner che ha così raggiunto il vertice della classifica che per ora condivide con il St. Albans. A favorire il salto in avanti degli Azzurri vittoriosi sul Western Suburbs e' stata la sconfitta dell'ex capitolista Frankston Pines per mano dello Springvale.

Domenica prossima il Fawkner avrebbe dovuto affrontare il Croydon, ma la partita e' stata rinviata poiché quest'ultimo e' impegnato nei quarti di finale della Nanda Cup. Ma il turno gli e' comunque favorevole perché vedrà di fronte il St. Albans e il Frankston e lo Springvale e il Box Hill in una ulteriore giornata di lotta fra dirette concorrenti per i primi posti che può risolversi solo a favore del Fawkner, qualunque siano i risultati.

Il Thomastown e' stato battuto di stretta misura dal St. Albans, ma dovrebbe rifarsi largamente domenica prossima quando ospiterà il fanalino di coda del Ringwood.

Postponed

● The match between Croydon and Fawkner, scheduled for Sunday at Croydon Park, has been postponed due to Croydon's Nanda Cup commitments.

The VSF is yet to announce a new date for the match but it is expected to be played at the end of the season.

Fawkner will meet Green Gully in a friendly match at Smith Reserve on Saturday. The game starts at 2pm.

Nyczyslyk, Clarke due on Friday

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Gerry Clarke and Jan Wyczyslyk are due to arrive on Friday and as we went to press Caulfield was hoping to sign Dave Brooks from Box Hill and Kenny Taylor from Croydon.

Clarke will be assistant coach to Dave O'Connor at Morwell and may be on the bench for the clash with Northcote at John Cain Reserve on Saturday.

Wyczyslyk, 28 is a striker from Polish Second Division club Korona Kielce. He'll go straight into the Polonia line-up which faces Western Suburbs at Ralph Reserve on Sunday.

Caulfield's committee believes that the team sadly lacks experience and with Brooks as a sweeper and Taylor in midfield it certainly would pose problems for Melbourne Hungaria at Princes Park on Saturday.

Melbourne will be without player-coach Paddy Bannon who is off to the World Cup finals. John Bird and Gerry Edmondson are looking after the first team until Bannon's return.

Paris Trambazis was sent off in Melbourne's clash with Croydon last Saturday and will miss the Caulfield match. I think Caulfield can win this one.

As far as I'm concerned, Ringwood Wilhelmnia already is doomed. The club needs class players but can't afford to bid them and new coach Tom Kelly has a thankless task.

Wilhelmnia meets Thomastown at Partridge Reserve on Sunday and should lose.

Thomastown player-coach George McMillan left experienced midfielder Alan Kerr on the bench last weekend which surprised me. Surely Kerr is needed in the heart of Thomastown's midfield, for, frankly, McMillan doesn't have an abundance of talent to work with.

But there's hope for Thomastown yet. It signed Andy Higgins last week from Heidelberg and if he can establish a partnership with Brian Flaherty up front, Thomastown is capable of achieving its aim of consolidating its State League status.

Northcote coach Frank Munro stands down on June 7, the day Roy McLaren is due to

arrive from England and take over as coach.

McLaren has been first team trainer at Aston Villa for 11 seasons and Northcote is hopeful that he'll bring a central defender and a midfielder from Villa with him.

Munro could become McLaren's assistant. Then again, he might not. I know of another State League club that has shown interest in hiring him.

Despite Northcote's fine win over Springvale last weekend, I expect Morwell Falcons to emerge triumphant on Saturday.

Ian Stirling is back among the goals, Anthony Cassar is in sparkling form. Peter Vercia looks to have shrugged off his indifferent form of late and Graham Tullit and Effie Cassar give Falcons plenty of drive in midfield. Although Northcote strikers Tom Paluszko and Peter Constantinou will benefit from the presence of Bobby Toal, I don't expect Emil Bruns and Harry Bingham to give much away here.

Toal's clash with experienced Morwell left back Jimmy Train could be a match highlight.

St. Albans Dinamo gets the chance to firmly establish its title credentials when it clashes with Frankston Pines at Churchill Reserve on Saturday.

Dinamo's Croatian import, Ivan Duzel, came on as a substitute against Thomastown last weekend and is expected to be in the starting line-up against Pines. But who will make way for him?

Toal's biggest problem facing Dinamo coach Tony Vrzina who surely won't break up the attacking combination of Dennis Morovic and Kevin Lloyd. Perhaps Duzel will be given an attacking midfield spot. Apparently he's best suited to that role.

Pines are expected to have Graham Watson in the starting line-up. He came on as a substitute against Springvale last weekend and with Pines having a few problems in midfield, Watson could be the answer.

At the risk of receiving yet another letter of complaint from Vrzina, I'm going for a draw.

Springleave takes on Box Hill at Ross Reserve on Sunday and what a tremendous tussle this will be.

Springleave masseur Hugh McCann will be working throughout the week on Billy Whiteside's thigh injury, knowing full well that Whiteside is one of the vital cogs in the Vales' line-up.

If Whiteside can't recover then Perry Mors will be in goal. Springleave coach Bobby McLachlan watched Box Hill beat Caulfield 3-0 last weekend and noted the qualities of Box Hill striker Laurie McKinnon. McLachlan is almost certain to assign markers for McKinnon and Phil Griffin in a bid to block Box Hill's main avenues to goal.

Falcons' Bell is in great form in midfield for Springvale but Box Hill also is well off in this area thanks to Andy Hughes and the tireless Barry Burton.

I think that a draw is the best bet.

Here are this weekend's games with likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY
Northcote v MORWELL, FAULTERS at John Cain Reserve, 3pm.
CAULFIELD v Melbourne Hungaria at Princes Park, 3pm.
St. Albans Dinamo v Frankston Pines (draw) at Churchill Reserve, 3pm.
SUNDAY
WESTERN SUBURBS v Polonia at Ralph Reserve, 3pm.
Springvale City v Box Hill (draw) at Ross Reserve, 3pm.
THOMASTOWN v Ringwood Wilhelmnia at Partridge Reserve, 3pm.

lute against Springvale last weekend and with Pines having a few problems in midfield, Watson could be the answer.

At the risk of receiving yet another letter of complaint from Vrzina, I'm going for a draw.

Springleave takes on Box Hill at Ross Reserve on Sunday and what a tremendous tussle this will be.

Springleave masseur Hugh McCann will be working throughout the week on Billy Whiteside's thigh injury, knowing full well that Whiteside is one of the vital cogs in the Vales' line-up.

If Whiteside can't recover then Perry Mors will be in goal. Springleave coach Bobby McLachlan watched Box Hill beat Caulfield 3-0 last weekend and noted the qualities of Box Hill striker Laurie McKinnon. McLachlan is almost certain to assign markers for McKinnon and Phil Griffin in a bid to block Box Hill's main avenues to goal.

Falcons' Bell is in great form in midfield for Springvale but Box Hill also is well off in this area thanks to Andy Hughes and the tireless Barry Burton.

I think that a draw is the best bet.

Here are this weekend's games with likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY
Northcote v MORWELL, FAULTERS at John Cain Reserve, 3pm.
CAULFIELD v Melbourne Hungaria at Princes Park, 3pm.
St. Albans Dinamo v Frankston Pines (draw) at Churchill Reserve, 3pm.
SUNDAY
WESTERN SUBURBS v Polonia at Ralph Reserve, 3pm.
Springvale City v Box Hill (draw) at Ross Reserve, 3pm.
THOMASTOWN v Ringwood Wilhelmnia at Partridge Reserve, 3pm.

lute against Springvale last weekend and with Pines having a few problems in midfield, Watson could be the answer.

At the risk of receiving yet another letter of complaint from Vrzina, I'm going for a draw.

Springleave takes on Box Hill at Ross Reserve on Sunday and what a tremendous tussle this will be.

Springleave masseur Hugh McCann will be working throughout the week on Billy Whiteside's thigh injury, knowing full well that Whiteside is one of the vital cogs in the Vales' line-up.

If Whiteside can't recover then Perry Mors will be in goal. Springleave coach Bobby McLachlan watched Box Hill beat Caulfield 3-0 last weekend and noted the qualities of Box Hill striker Laurie McKinnon. McLachlan is almost certain to assign markers for McKinnon and Phil Griffin in a bid to block Box Hill's main avenues to goal.

Falcons' Bell is in great form in midfield for Springvale but Box Hill also is well off in this area thanks to Andy Hughes and the tireless Barry Burton.

I think that a draw is the best bet.

Here are this weekend's games with likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY
Northcote v MORWELL, FAULTERS at John Cain Reserve, 3pm.
CAULFIELD v Melbourne Hungaria at Princes Park, 3pm.
St. Albans Dinamo v Frankston Pines (draw) at Churchill Reserve, 3pm.
SUNDAY
WESTERN SUBURBS v Polonia at Ralph Reserve, 3pm.
Springvale City v Box Hill (draw) at Ross Reserve, 3pm.
THOMASTOWN v Ringwood Wilhelmnia at Partridge Reserve, 3pm.

PRIMA

LET OUR "COACH" GET THE BEST OUT OF YOUR TEAM

If increased productivity is your goal, call (03) 614 4070 and we'll show you, at your premises, how to improve staff comfort and morale with the aid of our Ergonomic Essentials.



Pictured: The P15009V adjustable desk and the Pelly CPC3000 chair from Prima's full range of adjustable, ergonomically designed chairs and desks, and executive and boardroom furniture. We're on the ball with prices too.

"PROUD TO BE THE MAJOR SPONSORS OF BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS SOCCER CLUB"



Prima Furniture (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.

31-49 Queensbridge Street, South Melbourne.

Tel: (03) 614 4070.

Distributors: SYDNEY — COMMERCIAL COMPUTER CENTRE P/L, PH: (02) 959 4588. ADELAIDE — PROFURN — FERRAND FURNITURE P/L, PH: (08) 354 0990. LAUNCESTON — TIFFANY — NU STEEL FURNITURE P/L, PH: (003) 44 5301. PERTH — S.W.S. BURGETT, PH: (09) 344 6266. BRISBANE — BRIAR SALES, PH: (07) 848 7899. ACT — A.T. COMPUTER CENTRE, PH: (062) 81 1977

Brown keeps out North

NORTH DANDENONG 0 NUNAWADING CITY 0. Victorian Division One match at Lois Twohig Reserve, Saturday.

NORTH DANDENONG Kovac, Story, Lawson, Wainwright, Guin, Petrakos, Fox, Smith, Bux (Darko 67), Congdon, McDonald, Coach J. Milne.

NUNAWADING CITY Madjer, Brown, Charavalle, McCormie, Remmers, Barker (Roger 67), Greenwald, Hurlston (Mullett 67), Lawrie, Moyie, Foote, Coach J. Adam.

No goals but plenty of honest endeavour on a boglike pitch.

Players of both sides found the pitch beating the time and again. A draw was probably a fair result in the circumstances.

After a triple substitution in the 67th minute, chances became more frequent. A tired legs began to struggle. Darko shot weakly into Madjer's arms and Roggero headed over from close in.

In the closing minutes, Brown twice came to Nunawading's rescue, firstly with a fine tackle to rob McDonald and a minute later to head off the line.

Selections

VICTORIAN LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
NUNAWADING CITY v Knox City, Doreton v DONCASTER RANGERS, OAKLEIGH v ALTONA RANGERS, SUNBURY UNITED v Werribee.

Sunday MORNINGTON v North Dandenong, Richmond v BROADMEADOWS, SM MORDAIDIC v Altona Gate.

VICTORIAN LEAGUE DIVISION TWO
Saturday BULLEEN v Hamlyn Rangers, ROYAL RICHMOND v Essendon, CITY WAVERLEY CITY v Etihad, KELLER v DANDENONG CITY.

Moreland Park Rangers v Altona City (draw), North Geelong v Prahran City (draw), Ringwood United v Sandringham (draw).

DIVISION THREE
Saturday Port Melbourne v Moorabbin City, Geelong v Fernie Gully, CORIO v Coburg, Prahran v CLIFTON HILL, Rosanna v MIDDLEBARK, SPRINGVALE UNITED v Bell Park, Yarraville v Yallourn (draw).

DIVISION FOUR
Saturday HAWTHORN v Brighton, East Brunswick v Clarinda (draw), HEIDELBERG BUNDOORA v Ballarat, Kaysbrook v HOLLAND PARK, LOR UNITED v Langwarrin, Boroana v WEST BRUNSWICK.

PROVINCIAL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
Saturday IVANHOE CITY v Greensborough, Central City v BERRICK, WILVERBY CITY v East Geelong, Williamstown v CLAYTON, PASCOE VALE v Ardeer, SEAFORD UNITED v East Preston, Waverley v GEELONG UNITED.

DIVISION TWO
Saturday Monash University v MELTON, NORTH SUNSHINE v Mossfield, Uni of Melbourne v DINGLEY, UNITED FOREST HILL v Cranbourne, Regent v Chelsea (draw), SOUTH DANDENONG v Brunswick City.

Saturday GLENROY v Fitzroy City, Altona United v BURWOOD UNITED, Port United v BATMAN UNITED, PARK-MORE v Williamstown, SOUTH YARRA v Asot Vale City, WEST MEADOWS v RICHMOND UNITED, Meadow Park v SOUTH SPRINGVALE.

DIVISION FOUR
Saturday WEST UNITED v St. Kilda, LALOR v Riversdale, KENSINGTON v Williamstown, MALVERN v Waverley UNITED v Lyndale UNITED, NORTHERN UNITED v Carrum UNITED, DENBY PARK v Balcarra.

AMATEUR LEAGUE DIVISION ONE
Sunday Brimley v MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, COLLINGWOOD CITY v Epping Thistle, ASCOT ST MARKS v Northern Suburbs, DIAMOND VALLEY v Philip Institute, EAGLES UNITED v Endeavour Hills, BALWYN City v Maccabi.

DIVISION TWO
Sunday OLD SCOTCH v LaTrobe Uni, Concorde v HAWTHORN UNITED, East Richmond v OAKLEIGH UNITED, EAST ALTONA v North Melbourne, Waverley Wanderers v YARRA UNITED.

DIVISION THREE
Sunday Maccabi College v INTERCITY, Anstey United v RESERVES, EAGLES COLLINGWOOD v UNITED OLD PARADISES v Camberwell Grammar.

Fawkner emerges as a championship contender

Man of the match:
BRUNO COZZELLA
(Fawkner)

Fawkner 2
W. Suburbs 1

Scorers: Cozzella 42nd, 57th (F); McGuinness penalty 88th (WS).
Venue: Smith Reserve, Sunday.

I saw a genuine championship contender in Springvale City on Saturday and I saw another one on Sunday - Fawkner.

Fawkner completely dominated the second half of its clash with Suburbs with Dave Nixon, Colin Quigley and Fab Mancinelli too quick and too

strong for the Suburbs' midfielders and Bruno Cozzella as sharp as a tack - as usual.

A series of incredible errors almost presented Fawkner with its opening goal in the 10th minute. Cozzella got onto the end of a bad passback by Bobby McGuinness and played the ball to Ian Tuffield. He missed it completely, so did Nixon and Quigley shot wide.

The goal that split these sides at the break came in the 42nd minute. This time Suburbs paid dearly for their errors which, from a non-partisan viewpoint, took on comical proportions. A bad passback by Billy Hamill saw the ball stick in the mud. Cozzella and Milutin Ciric both reached it at the same time. They ended up on the deck as the ball rolled free. David Smallman got it and was in control until Ciric dived at his team mate's feet. The ball broke to Nixon whose shot struck Ciric. By now Cozzella

By MIKE LYNN

was back on his feet and decided to end the farce by slotting home the rebound from an acute angle.

Frankly, Suburbs weren't fit enough and therefore not competitive enough to match strides with Fawkner after the interval. Cozzella put Suburbs behind the eight-ball in the 57th minute. Nixon robbed Kantonis and knocked the ball to Cozzella who skinned Andy Esposito, drew out Ciric and hammered home a low drive.

Peter Bordignon hardly gave McGuinness an inch. As things turned out, McGuinness did score - from the penalty spot in the 88th minute. That decision was harsh for Fab Mancinelli made a great tackle on McGuinness and a fair one too. McGuinness admitted as much after the match.

But McGuinness should have been given a penalty in the 66th minute. He wasn't and like me probably still is wondering why. He was put through by Darren Tuck (who could play in the National League for mine) and as he was about to shoot, young Bordignon charged in and clearly hampered McGuinness. The ball sailed over both Richard Wilson and the bar.

Another curious refereeing decision came in the 75th minute. Tuffield won the ball in the air, heading on to Tony Schipano who had broke forward well. Schipano let fly just as the ref whistled. The ball flew into the roof of the Suburbs net with Ciric well beaten only to be brought back for a foul on Tuffield! I'm sure Fawkner would have swapped the free kick for the goal. Whatever happened to the advantage rule?



● Fawkner, back row: Peter Boyle (coach), Richard Wilson, Fab Angele, Tony Schipano, Cesar Fattore, Fab Mancinelli, Frank Sabbatino. Front row: Roy Walsh, Dave Nixon, Bruno Cozzella, Ian Tuffield, Peter Bordignon. Missing: Colin Quigley. Picture: CARMELO BAZZANO.

Kulak, Kowalec clash; Kelly in, Curran out

By CRAIG MacKENZIE

Cracks appeared in the relationship between Polonia coach Kaz Kulak and team manager Kaz Kowalec after Polonia's 0-2 loss to Northcote last Sunday while Tom Kelly took over from Bill Curran after Ringwood Wilhelmina's 1-5 loss to Morwell Falcons.

Kulak and Kowalec argued in the dressing room after the match, reinforcing rumors of unrest in the Polonia camp.

Those rumors were fuelled by speculation that former president Mike Zurek is contemplating a comeback and could call for an extraordinary general meeting soon.

"An absolute shambles. That's how one Polonia fan summed up the team's display against Northcote."

Bobby Toal was signed by Northcote from George Cross for \$4,500 on Friday and scored in his debut.

In the 35th minute, Toal played the ball to Peter Constantinou wide on the right and he drove it into the Polonia area. Big Tom Patsakos capped off the move in style with a superb header.

The game was put out of Polonia's reach shortly after half time. Patsakos headed on to Toal, who rounded a defender then struck the ball past Polonia goalie Leszek Dzielakowski to make it 2-0.

Cassar the star
Jubilee Park was buzzing after Morwell's big win on Sunday and the player everyone was talking about was young Morwell striker Anthony Cassar.

"He was the man of the match by a mile. He really excited about his prospects. He just gets better each time I see him," said Morwell coach Dave O'Connor.

Ian Stirton set up the win by scoring Morwell's first two goals. His second came in the 30th minute, courtesy of a superb chip over young Robert Brian from 20 metres.

Morwell had three goals disallowed, hit the woodwork once and blew at least six clear-cut chances.

"You'll start to see Morwell climb the ladder. They certainly were four goals better than us today," said Curran, who landed the senior coaching reins to reserve team coach Kelly after the game. Curran will coach the reserves.

"We need a very good front runner and a very good midfielder," said Curran. "But I'd like to give the committee credit because they've worked very hard this year and it's through no fault of theirs that the team is struggling."

Andy Higgins

Thomastown beat Northcote in the race to sign Andy Higgins from Heidelberg. Thomastown signed him for \$4,000 and even though it went down 0-1 to St Albans Dinamo on Sunday, it turned in one of its better displays this year.

The goal that mattered came in unusual circumstances in the 65th minute. The ref got in the way of an intended cross into the Thomastown area and the ball deflected to Ned Batonicovic whose shot beat Mauro Raponi.

Thomastown created the better chances although Dinamo could have added to its score late in the game after Thomastown player-coach George McMillan vacated his sweeper's spot and went up front in an effort to snatch the equaliser.

Griffin, McKinna

Box Hill continued its rise up the ladder and the front running combination of Phil Griffin and Scottish import Laurie McKinna looks certain to worry most defences this season.

Caulfield should have opened the scoring in the 29th minute but John McKinlay, fast earning a reputation as one of the finest goalkeepers in State League, spread himself superbly to block Danny Zemunik's shot.

A minute later the Hillmen opened their account.

Alan Roodhouse drove the ball in to the Caulfield area. Con Alexandropoulos dived but only could palm the ball out to Griffin who slotted it in.

Caulfield was caught far too forward in the 70th minute and McKinna, the former Kilmarnock striker, made it pay dearly. He broke clear and struck the ball past the advancing Alexandropoulos to make it 2-0.

Griffin rounded off the scoreline 10 minutes later to maintain the Hillmen's quest for a top four spot.

Buffalo State League standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
ST ALB. DINAMO	6	3	1	17	5	15
FAWKNER	6	3	1	12	5	15
F'STON PINES	6	2	2	18	10	14
SPRINGVALE	5	4	1	13	6	14
Croydon	5	2	3	21	10	12
Box Hill	5	2	3	17	10	12
West Subs	5	2	3	17	15	12
Thomastown	3	3	4	9	10	9
M'well Falcons	3	1	6	13	16	7
Polonia	2	3	5	7	11	7
Caulfield	3	1	6	15	21	7
Northcote	2	2	6	12	22	6
Melb-Hungaria	1	4	5	10	20	6
Wilhelmina	1	2	7	4	24	4

MELBOURNE HUNGARIA 0 CROYDON 0 at J.T. Gray Reserve, Saturday.
MELBOURNE HUNGARIA Kiss 8 - Szabo 7, P. Bannon 9, Bird 8, Edmondson 7 - S. Wild 7, Tzambazis 5 (sent off 56th), Dagnall 6, Beltsky 6 - Morrey 7, L. Theodoropoulos 7, Coach: Paddy Bannon.
CROYDON Blasby 7 - Brown 8, O'Reilly 7, Tansey 6, Beech 6, Cooper 6 (O Shea 60th), McDonald 8, Maclean 8, Livingstone 7 - French 6, Brogan 6 (O'Brien 72nd), Coach: Peter O'Brien.

Best three for Ametco Travel award: 3 P. Bannon (MF), 2 McDonald (C), 1 Bird (M).

FRANKSTON PINES 0 SPRINGVALE 1 (House 3rd) at Monterey Reserve, Saturday.

FRANKSTON PINES Boland 6 - Cumming 6, R. Nelson 6 (Wilton 75th), Macleod 8, Ferris 7 - Ross 6, Thurlow 6, Cullen 5 (Miller 75th) - P. Hannigan 5, Webster 3, L. Theodoropoulos 7, Coach: Paddy Bannon.
SPRINGVALE CITY Whiteside 7 (in) Mur 80th - G. Bannon 6, Adams 9, Bissinger 6, Hobson 6 - J. Nelson 7, Bentley 6, Bell 8, Garvey 8 (in) M. Wild 80th - House 6 Athersych 7, Coach: Bobby McLachlan.

Best three for Ametco Travel award: 3 Adams (S), 2 Bell (S), 1 Macleod (FP).

FAWKNER 2 (Cozzella 42nd, 57th) WESTERN SUBURBS 1 (McGuinness penalty 88th) at Smith Reserve, Sunday.

FAWKNER R. Wilson 6 - Walsh 8, Fattore 7, Schipano 6, Bordignon 6 - Angele 7, Nixon 8, Quigley 8, Mancinelli 8 - Tuffield 6, Cozzella 9, Coach: Peter Boyle.
WESTERN SUBURBS Cinc 5 - Beattie 7, Smallman 7, Esposito 6, Hamill 6 - Palmancioti 6, Kantonis 6, Farmer 8 (in) Kondilis 35th, in, Tran 60th - McCuckey 6, McGuinness 6, Tuck 7, Coach: Jimmy Kondilis.

Best three for Ametco Travel award: 3 Cozzella (F), 2 Mancinelli (F), 1 Walsh (F).

BOX HILL 3 (Griffin 30th, 80th, McKinna 70th) CAULFIELD CITY 0 at Wembley Park, Sunday.

BOX HILL McKinna 3 - McPhee 6, Hennessy 8, Davidson 6, Roodhouse 7 - Taylor 7, Hughes 8, Burton 8 - Gagic 6, Griffin 7, McKinna 8, Coach: Keith Webster.
CAULFIELD CITY Alexandropoulos 6 - Bitsonis 7, Tofar 5, Koulaas 7, Tzitsanis 5 - Vagias 7, Aamanadis 4, Theodorakis 5, Topalidis 5 - Zemunik 7, Filipous 1 (in) Sahindis 25th, 41, in, Hammarous 70th, Coach: Takis Svingos.

Best three for Ametco Travel award: 3 Hennessy (BH), 2 McKinna (BH), 1 Burton (BH).

POLONIA 0 NORTHCOTE 2 (Patsakos 35th, Toal 48th) at Raleigh Reserve, Sunday.

POLONIA L. Dzielakowski 4 - Liparski 5, Smolarek 7, G. Czupnik 4 (P. Dzielakowski 85th), Chetcuti 3 - Warsawski 4 - Czupnik 4, Gregorczuk 5 - Kadlicek 4, P. Czupnik 4, Stewart 5, Coach: Kaz Kulak.
NORTHCOTE Giannopoulos 6 - Stiklads 7, Cutler 7, Kouremenos 6, J. Constantinou 6 - Toro 5, Bozkie 8, Patinoitis 7 - Toal 7, Patsakos 7, P. Constantinou 7, Coach: Frank Munro.

Best three for Ametco Travel award: 3 Bozkie (N), 2 Cutler (N), 1 Stiklads (N).

THOMASTOWN 0 ST ALBANS DINAMO 1 (Batonicovic 65th) at Partridge Reserve, Sunday.

THOMASTOWN Raponi 6 - Rainey 7, Pianalto 8, G. McMillan 7, Carfara 8 - D. Martino 7, Evans 6, Coyle 5 - Flaherty 7 (Temos 75th), Ilhan 5 (Keir 75th), Higgins 6, Coach: George McMillan.
ST ALBANS DINAMO M. Grice 7 - Kustura 5, Krajacic 7, Brkljacic 6, Kuznetsov 5 - Baines 7, M. Wild 7, Cullen 5, Dezic 6 - Morovic 5, Lloyd 6 (in) Duzel 56th, Coach: Tony Vrzina.

Best three for Ametco Travel award: 3 Pianalto (T), 2 Carfara (T), 1 Krajacic (ST).

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 1 (Storm 84th) MORWELL FALCONS 5 (Stirton 10th, 28th, O'Callaghan penalty 42nd, E. Cassar 80th, Verechia 80th) at Jubilee Park, Sunday.

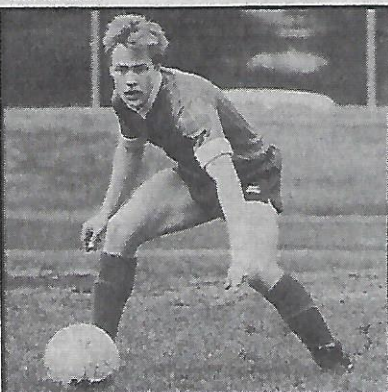
RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 1 - Austin 6, G. Keir 6, G. Keir 7, Bakker 6, Lange 7 (in) Omeroglu 78th - Alarcon 6 (Thomson 60th), Bates 6, Vermeire 7 - Wemysy 6, Storm 6, Angula 6, Coach: Bill Curran.
MORWELL FALCONS Escott 7 - M. Cassar 7, Bingham 7, Bruns 7 (Wilson 81st), Tran 8 - E. Cassar 8 (Bezina 81st), O'Callaghan 8, Tutill 8 - Verechia 7, Stirton 9, A. Cassar 10, Coach: Dave O'Connor.

Best three for Ametco Travel award: 3 A. Cassar (MF), 2 Stirton (MF), 1 Tran (MF).

AMETCO TRAVEL AWARD

Ametco Travel, in conjunction with VSF Travel, will provide a return trip to Singapore for the 1986 State League Player of the Year.

- Leading votegetters:
14 - Dick (Pines)
13 - Adams, Bell (Springvale)
12 - M. Wilson (Dinamo)
11 - Cozzella (Fawkner)
9 - Burton (Box Hill), Krajacic, Morovic (Dinamo)



● Springvale, sweeper Keith Adams

Keith Adams unbeatable!

By MIKE LYNN

F'ston Pines 0
Springvale 1

Scorer: House 3rd.
Venue: Monterey Reserve, Saturday.

Bobby McLachlan is going to hate me for saying so but Springvale will be up there when it counts.

The reason the Vales are genuine championship contenders is because they are organised, disciplined, have a tremendous camaraderie between the players and have bags of character.

Springvale dominated the first half and gave a fine, controlled display with Keith Adams simply magnificent. But the Vales didn't capitalise on their superiority. Pines threw everything they had at Springvale in the second half, spurred on by the outstanding enthusiasm of Frank Macleod who made a series of surging runs upfield but Adams remained in complete control.

The goal that mattered came in the 3rd minute. A short corner put Gary Hobson in possession. He crossed to the far post where Macleod and Peter Thurlow both missed the ball in the air. Greg House didn't. He chested down, turned, and volleyed it home.

Russell Athersych had a great first half. His ability to hold the ball until he was supported was a treat to watch.

In the 29th minute, a Pines corner was cleared to Athersych who flicked the ball superbly to Ged Bannon and his ball over the top caught Pines

square at the back. House was through. Dennis Boland charged off his line and slipped. House also slipped, blowing the chance to go past Boland and knock the ball into the unguarded goal.

Adams made one mistake in the match but promptly made up for it. In the 88th minute a high ball was played into the Springvale area. Adams misdirected his attempt to chest the ball back to Billy Whiteside who booted it to Jimmy Ross. His first time shot was goal-bound but guess who had got back to clear off the line? That's right - Adams.

Springvale has great variety from set-piece situations. In the 70th minute Jim Nelson took a short corner to Neil Garvey, another of Springvale's fine players. He played the ball back to Nelson who crossed first time. Athersych charged in only to head straight at Boland. He should have scored.

In the 82nd minute, Macleod won the ball with a great tackle. He broke forward, played the ball to Ally Dick and kept running. Dick got to the edge of the Springvale area then played the ball wide to Macleod whose first time shot was too high. Nevertheless, it typified Macleod's second half effort and if some of his team mates had shown as much endeavour Pines may have fared better.

MAGNA - CAR OF THE YEAR



Mitsubishi Car Maker of the year - Again.

STATE LEAGUE TOP SCORER AWARD \$400 TO THE WINNER

- Leading scorers:
8 - Morovic (Dinamo)
8 - Cozzella (Fawkner), Dick (Pines)
7 - Stirton (Morwell)
6 - French, MacLean (Croydon), McGuinness (Suburbs)
5 - Zemunik (Caulfield)

Call Jim McMinimee (059) 41 2777 B/H or (059) 71 2306 A/H

Walker wins former club

I suggested last week that Barry Walker would love to score against his old club and so he did. Not only did Walker score, but he made this match a memorable one, with a goal the difference between the two sides.

Melita looked in fine touch from the start. A corner kick by Howard Treddnick in the 7th minute saw Foxman head the ball for Farnsworth to score.

Then came a change of fortunes for the home side as Domenico Giannone decided to

take a hand in proceedings. He beat no less than three Melita defenders in the 22nd before beating Pupovac for the equaliser.

Some 10 minutes later Glen Sterrey found Giannone who rounded Williams and cut a cross for Barry Walker to head past Pupovac.

Goal famine
My kingdom for a striker! That was the cry of Uruguayan coach Ljubo Gokjovic after he had seen his team draw for the fifth time in seven weeks.



Air Malta player of the year award

Leading votegetters:

- 9 — Farrugia (ME)
- 8 — Filipovic (A), Peil (FM)
- 7 — Drys (P), Goric (U)
- 6 — Watt, Giannone (WF), Van Edmond (MW), Colusso (P), Nastevski, Tortevski (RI), Rosano, Woods (U)
- 5 — Blazic (A), A. Botalico (WF), W. Baker, Berringer (FM), Wilson (ME), Campbell (P), Watson, Goldsworth (K), Talevski (WM).

FRESHWATER 2 (Giannone 22nd, Walker 33rd) MELITA EAGLES 1 (Farnsworth 7th) at Narrabeen Sports Centre.

FRESHWATER: Bowman 6, J. Botalico 6, Watt 7, Sterrey 7, Green 7, Barry 7, A. Botalico 8, Garrett 7, — Giannone 9, Walker 7, O'Rourke 6.

MELITA: Pupovac 7, — Laing 6, McCoy 6, Wilson 7, Williamson 8, Farrugia 7, Stoen 7, Vay 7, A. Botalico 6 (Meerbank 68th), Farnsworth 6 (Callanan 76th), H. Treddnick 6.

Best players for Air Malta award: 3 Giannone, 2 Williams, 1 A. Botalico.

KU-RING-GAI 0 URUGUAY 0 at Parklands.

KU-RING-GAI: Lacey 7, — Pepper 7, Berringer 7, Watson 8, Goldsworth 7, — Groomie 7, Sutherland 7, Quigley 6, Tkachuk 7, — Nile 8, Bass 6 (Williamson 80th).

URUGUAY: Rosano 7, — Piriz 7, Woods 8, O'Donnell 8, Tomasich 7, — Mosquero 6 (72nd Benitez), Pagano 6, Cuba 6, Genc 8, — Van Helden 6, Carrizzo 6 (Vecchietti 63rd — 7).

Best players for Air Malta award: 3 Woods, 2 Nile, 1 Watson.

PENRITH CITY 0 ROCKDALE ILINDEN 3 (Nastevski 28th, 30th, Ristevski 53rd) at Cook Park.

PENRITH: Edwards 7, — Brogan 6, Campbell 7, Kerrigan 6, Cross 7, — C. Thompson 6, New 7, Easthope 7, Gray 6, McLeod 5 (60th K. Thompson), Shute 5, Martinez 46th — 7).

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Berry 8, — G. Wilson 7, Plovski 7, D. Wilson 8, Rodas 7, Tortevski 7, Darlington 6, Nikolovski 7, — Nastevski 9, Genovese 7 (Llora 72nd), Ristevski 8.

Best players for Air Malta award: 3 Nastevski, 2 D. Wilson, 1 Berry.

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 1 (Giraldi 82nd) FAIRY MEADOW 0 at Berkeley Sports Ground.

WOLLONGONG: G. Robinson 7, Talevski 7, Sweeney 7, Ruskin 8, — Wallbourne 6, Todorovski 7 (83rd Krkovski), Bingham 7, — Robinson 6, Gardner 7, Girdle 7.

FAIRY MEADOW: Krasimirov 7, White 7, Berringer 7, Kerr 7, Hobbs 7, — Peil 8, Reyes 6 (Cano 66th), Condon 7, S. Baker 7, W. Baker 8, Dammert 7.

Best players for Air Malta award: 3 Ruskin, 2 W. Baker, 1 Peil.

POLONIA 1 (Drys 32) SUTHERLAND 1 (DalForno 57th) at Chopin Park.

POLONIA: Zic 6, — Usarkovic 7, Lasek 7, Robertson 7, Chou 6, — Collusso 8, Drys 9, Goeke 7, — Pop 6, Janic 6, Drug 6.

SUTHERLAND: Burremore 7, — Nelson 7, Burrows 7, Terry 7, Sellar 7, — Lennard 7, DalForno 8, Harrington 6, Johnston 6 (Cox 60th), — Hughes 6 (Duncan 30th), Hall 6.

Best players for Air Malta award: 3 Drys, 2 DalForno, 1 Harrington.

AVALA 0 MANLY 1 (Marshall 68th) at Knights Park.

AVALA: Thurlow 7, — Blackburn 7, Altagic 8, Pena 6 (7th Coates), Divers 7, Blazic 7, Kodor 6, Jeffery 6, — Brown 5, Filipovic 7, Bratkovic 6 (75th Rodic).

MANLY: Catlin 7, — Dennis 7, J. Dick 8, Robin 7, Van Edmond 8, — Marshall 7, Campbell 7, Dean 8, — Stuart 7, Allan 7, McIntosh 6.

Best players for Air Malta award: 3 J. Dick, 2 Altagic, 1 Van Edmond.

Skypack State League standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MANLY WARR.	4	2	2	12	6	10
SUTHERLAND	4	2	2	10	8	10
KU-RING-GAI	3	4	1	8	6	10
MELITA EAGLES	3	3	2	17	7	9
AVALA	3	3	2	8	5	9
Macedonia	3	3	2	8	5	9
Freshwater	4	1	3	15	15	9
Uruguay	4	2	5	16	8	9
Polonia	2	4	2	9	13	8
Rock. Ilinden	3	1	4	13	13	7
Fairy Meadow	2	0	6	10	23	4
Penrith City	1	0	7	8	13	2

Second grade results: Freshwater — Melita Eagles 2-1, Ku-Ring-Gai — Uruguay 2-1, Uruguay 2-1, Avala — Polonia 1-0, Sutherland 0-3, Ilinden — Penrith 2-4, Wollongong Macedonia — Fairy Meadow 0-0.

Third grade results: Freshwater — Melita 0-5, Ku-Ring-Gai — Uruguay 2-2, Avala — Manly 1-2, Polonia — Sutherland 1-5, Ilinden — Penrith 1-1, Wollongong — Fairy Meadow 5-2.

Second Grade

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MELITA EAGLES	6	1	2	6	13	13
FRESHWATER	6	1	1	18	10	13
MANLY WARR.	5	2	1	16	11	11
GAH	3	3	2	12	11	9
Ku-Ring-Gai	4	1	3	14	14	9
Penrith	3	1	4	11	17	7
Fairy Meadow	3	1	4	12	13	7
Avala	3	1	4	11	13	7
Uruguay	2	3	3	15	18	4
Macedonia	4	1	4	14	16	6
Polonia	1	1	6	7	23	3
Ilinden	1	1	6	14	32	3



NSW State League with ALEX VESIC

Two wins and five draws is nothing to be sneezed at, but with some fine talent on display much of the good work is being wasted through lack of front-line power.

Deo Ford, the Ku-Ring-Gai coach, must have had the same thought, as he replaced his bewildered striker Craig Bass towards the end.

Hardly a shot at goal in a very tense encounter but both sides were happy with the final result.

Nastevski show

Zlatko Nastevski, Ilinden's import from Vardar Skopje, showed some fine skills to dazzle Penrith's defence at Cook Park and score two great goals, spearheading Ilinden to its second victory in a row.

Nastevski was on hand to ex-

plot the keeper's mistake in the 28th when a cross by Genovese proved hard to catch. Edwards parried and Nastevski slammed it back into the net for 1-0.

Only two minutes later, Vasko Nikolovski was brought down and Nastevski took the penalty kick to make it 2-0.

Eight minutes into the second half and this time Nastevski exchanged passes with Vlado Tortevski, then wrong-footed a defender before cutting in a cross for Jimmy Ristevski to make it 3-0.

Giraldi — Late!

Paul Giraldi broke the deadlock at Berkeley Sports Ground with a shot eight minutes from time.

The local Port Kembla and Warragong crowd appreciated the result.

Goals are hard to come by at the Berkeley Sports Ground this year but when they are the two points usually stay at home.

Ruskin, Talevski and Bing-

ham looked good for the locals, while Warren Baker and Peil with Kerr and Berringer better than most at Meadow.

Jurek Dry!

Polonia's Jurek Dry is fast becoming the talk of the town with his great displays in the State League. He was in full flight once more against Sutherland at Chopin Park, scoring the only goal for Polonia and making life miserable for the Sharks.

Drys was at the end of a series of passes by Polonia players, with Collusso finding Polonia's tall midfielder some 25 metres from goal. Drys walked past two Sutherland defenders, then coolly stabbed the ball wide of Burchmore for 1-0.

Vic DalForno exploited a bad mistake by Polonia's young keeper Zic. His mishandled a cross and DalForno

was at the far post to tuck it in for the equaliser.

Sutherland was grateful for the point as it puts the side at level pegging with the leaders. However, players lacked enthusiasm and apart from DalForno, Harrington and, to an extent, young Lerond, very few players could class their performance as anything but average!

Avala sunk

Paul Marshall scored Manly's second goal in successive weeks to help the Sea Eagles defeat Avala at Knights Park and top spot in the NSW State League.

Fraser Robin threaded a pass for Marshall to race in and lob Bruce Thurlow from 20 metres.

This was the only goal of a drama-filled match, with play swinging from one end to the other.

Another scalp for Ilinden

Rockdale Ilinden, the fast-rising State League side is about to claim another scalp on Sunday, this time that of Polonia at Hurstville Oval, while Warringah Freshwater, fresh from its latest success against Melita Eagles, is riding high and ready for Uruguayan Auburn at Mona Park.

And while I am prepared to predict that Polonia will have more than its fair share of trouble at Hurstville Oval against Rockdale Ilinden, I could not possibly go for anything else but yet another draw between Freshwater and Uruguay.

Ilinden has struck gold in the form of its two Yugoslav imports. Zlatko Nastevski has been a revelation bagging goals galore, while Vlado Tortevski an ex-team mate of Zarko Odakov, is setting the State League alight with his skills.

And to this the fine form of Jimmy Ristevski, Genovese, Wilson and Plovski and you have a complete picture of one mean, hungry outfit.

Polonia has its share of troubles with Pop still out of sorts and Janic not converting the chances offered. Its defence had a major shake-up and its new goalkeeper has not looked confident. Its only strength is in midfield with Drys, Collusso and Geeke.

Uruguayan Auburn will welcome Freshwa-

ter to Mona Park with one thing in mind — two points. True, Uruguay, under a new coach since round two has a new-found vigor and is far more disciplined. Its results have been good and the side has not been beaten for seven games with nine points being collected in that time.

Last weekend Bass was blotted out. This weekend it is the turn of Barry Walker and Giannone to find out just how strong this Uruguayan side is. Genc, Carrizzo and Van Helden will try to break through a fairly strong Freshwater defensive wall with Glen Sterrey, David Watt and Jimmy Botalico standing firm. Another 0-0 draw, eh?

Penrith City and Wollongong Macedonia clash at Cook Park and should share the points as might happen at Seymour Shaw where Sutherland meets Avala. Manly Warringah will show its true form at Cromer Park this weekend against Ku-Ring-Gai in a match which should decide the fate of the top four, for the time being at least.

Manly has the edge, but Ku-Ring-Gai has become a draw specialist.

At Melita Stadium on Sunday, it is the "V" day or else! The "else" means measures to remedy the unpleasant situation Melita has fallen into.

There was a strong resentment towards the club's coach after the match last Sunday when Melita lost to Freshwater and Dennis Hoggart must be pleased to be facing Fairy Meadow this Sunday.

I see very little chance for the visitors so it's a return to the top of the table for Melita.

N.S.W. SOCCER FEDERATION



THE WORLD WIDE COURIERS

PROGRAMME OF MATCHES

STATE LEAGUE (Sunday 1.6.86)

Melita Eagles — Fairy Meadow, Melita Stadium
Uruguay — Warr. Freshwater, Mona Park
Manly Warringah — Ku-Ring-Gai, Cromer Park
Sutherland — Avala, Seymour Shaw
Rockdale Ilinden — Polonia, Hurstville Oval
Penrith City — Woll. Macedonia, Cook Park

II DIVISION (Saturday 31.5.86)

Kingsford — Nth Bankstown, Kensington Oval
Dee Why — Blacktown Utd, Dee Why Oval

(Sunday 1.6.86)

Canterbury — Gladesville, Black Oval
Queens Park — Bankstown Lebanon, Erskineville Oval
Bathurst — Yugal, Proctor Park
Artarmon — Campbelltown City, Artarmon Reserve.

III DIVISION (Saturday 31.5.86)

Mt Druitt — Baulkham Hills, Popondetta Park
Bondi Marine — West United, Waverley Oval
Moorebank — Grantville Chile, Hammondville
(Sunday 1.6.86)

Campbelltown — Port Hacking, Bensley Rd
North Ryde RSL — Rooty Hill, Magdala Park
Uni of NSW — King Tomislav, Little Bay Oval

STATE LEAGUE (Sunday 8.6.86)

Woll. Macedonia — Melita, Berkley Sports Ground
Fairy Meadow — Uruguayan, Corimal Memorial Park
Warr. Freshwater — Manly Warringah, Narrabeen
Sutherland — Ku-Ring-Gai, Seymour Shaw
Avala — Rockdale Ilinden, Knight Park
Polonia — Penrith City, Chopin Park

II DIVISION (Saturday 7.6.86)

Nth Bankstown — Bankstown Lebanon, Potts Park
Blacktown Utd — Artarmon, Francis Park

(Sunday 8.6.86)

Campbelltown — Canterbury, Lynwood Park
Gladesville — Kingsford, Pioneer Park
Queens Park — Bathurst, Erskineville Oval
Yugal — Dee Why, Blick Oval

III DIVISION (Saturday 7.6.86)

Baulkham Hills — North Ryde, Ted Horwood Res.
Grantville Chile — Uni of NSW, Garside Park

(Sunday 8.6.86)

King Tomislav — Campbelltown, Croatian Sports Centre
Port Hacking — Mt Druitt, Seymour Shaw
Rooty Hill — Bondi Marine, Camwarra Park
West United — Moorebank, T.B.A.

Geelong boss quits

Former Sunshine City dynamo Ian McCarthy has quit as coach of Victorian Third Division club Geelong.

"I've got too much pride to let the current situation continue and I feel that the answer might be for the club to bring in a fresh face," said McCarthy.

thy, in his fourth season at Geelong.

McCarthy is a former Geelong best and fairest winner and led the club to two Geelong Advertiser Cup final appearances.

Geelong currently is struggling near the foot of the Third Division ladder.

Jimmy Warnock has taken over as caretaker coach.

MINI WORLD CUP

Sixteen teams, made up of players representing their countries of origin, will contest the "Mini World Cup" at Green Gully Reserve, Vic. from November 7 to December 8.

Tournament organiser Tony Kennedy said the 16 teams were: Malta, Spain, Yugoslavia, Australia, England, Scotland, Greece, Ireland, Mauritius, Poland, Turkey, Chile, Holland, Uruguay Hungary and Italy.

Gooch on the move

Daryl Gooch of Victorian First Division club Richmond and winner of the club's 1985 best and fairest award, is on the lookout for a new team.

Gooch, who plays in defence, has had quite an illustrious past. He has represented Victoria at junior level and also was a member of the 1980 Australian schoolboys team.

He played for Prhran Slavia as a junior when Slavia was in the State League and also has played for Doveton and Mel-

bourne. Gooch would like another opportunity to prove himself in State League and at 26 has a lot to offer.

He can be reached at work on 783 7663 or at home on 789 9641.

Goalie available

Goalie Terry Hawke is looking for a new club. He is available on a free transfer.

Hawke 36, is currently with Caulfield City. He previously played for Mooroolbark, Juventus, Wilmelina, Frankston City and Prahran Celtic.

He can be contacted on 20 2591 (w) and 619 2207 (h).



AUSTRALIAN INDOOR SOCCER

THOMASTOWN INDOOR SOCCER



460 2427

"TEAMS WANTED"

The very best in indoor soccer is available at Victoria's FIRST, and we will continue to give you the finest! Thomastown Indoor Soccer is privileged to have introduced Indoor Soccer to the north where other centres have followed. We are the first and the best. This exciting team sport will appeal to all levels, Men, Women, mixed and junior levels.

- ★ IT IS A FIVE-A-SIDE COMPETITION
- ★ LIMITED BODY CONTACT
- ★ FULLY NETTED FOR SAFE CONTINUOUS PLAY
- ★ A VAST PLAYING AREA OF OVER 4500 SQUARE FEET
- ★ "ULTRA" GRASS FOR FAST NON-SLIPPERY ACTION GAMES
- ★ GRADING MATCHES ARE NOW BEING PLAYED AND THE NEW SEASON IS STARTING SOON
- ★ TROPHIES WORTH OVER \$10,000 ARE TO BE WON ANNUALLY
- ★ GYMNASIUM AND TRAINING FACILITIES BEING OFFERED IN THE NEAR FUTURE

ATTENTION: For new teams who join up for the next new competition no game fee will be charged for the first game upon presentation of this advertisement.

The court can also be booked by TEAMS, SCHOOLS or COMPANIES on weekdays and weekends for social games and practice matches.

NOMINATE NOW

MENS — WOMENS — MIXED — JUNIORS

NAME OF TEAM	
T-SHIRT COLOURS	
TEAM CAPTAIN	
ADDRESS	
CAPTAINS PHONE (Home) (Work)	
OTHER CONTACT PHONE (Home) (Work)	
INDICATE COMPETITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Mens <input type="checkbox"/> Womens <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed <input type="checkbox"/> Juniors	
GRADE	SIGNED DATE

For more information and details please come in personally or ring ...
BILL ... 465 7209 NICO ... 466 4884 or 460 2427

THOMASTOWN INDOOR SOCCER

4 CHAFFEY STREET, THOMASTOWN
(opposite Excelsior Hotel-Motel)